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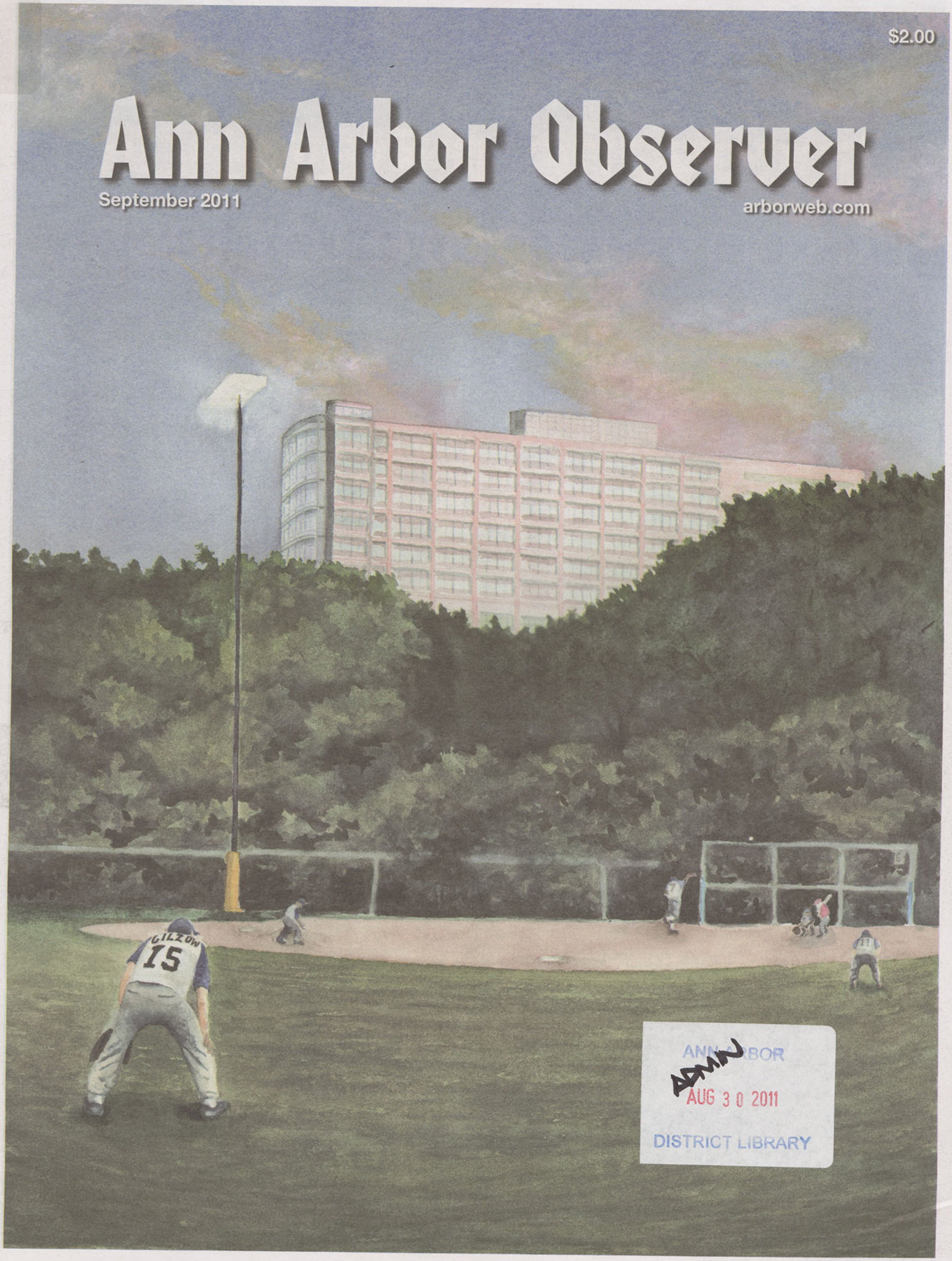

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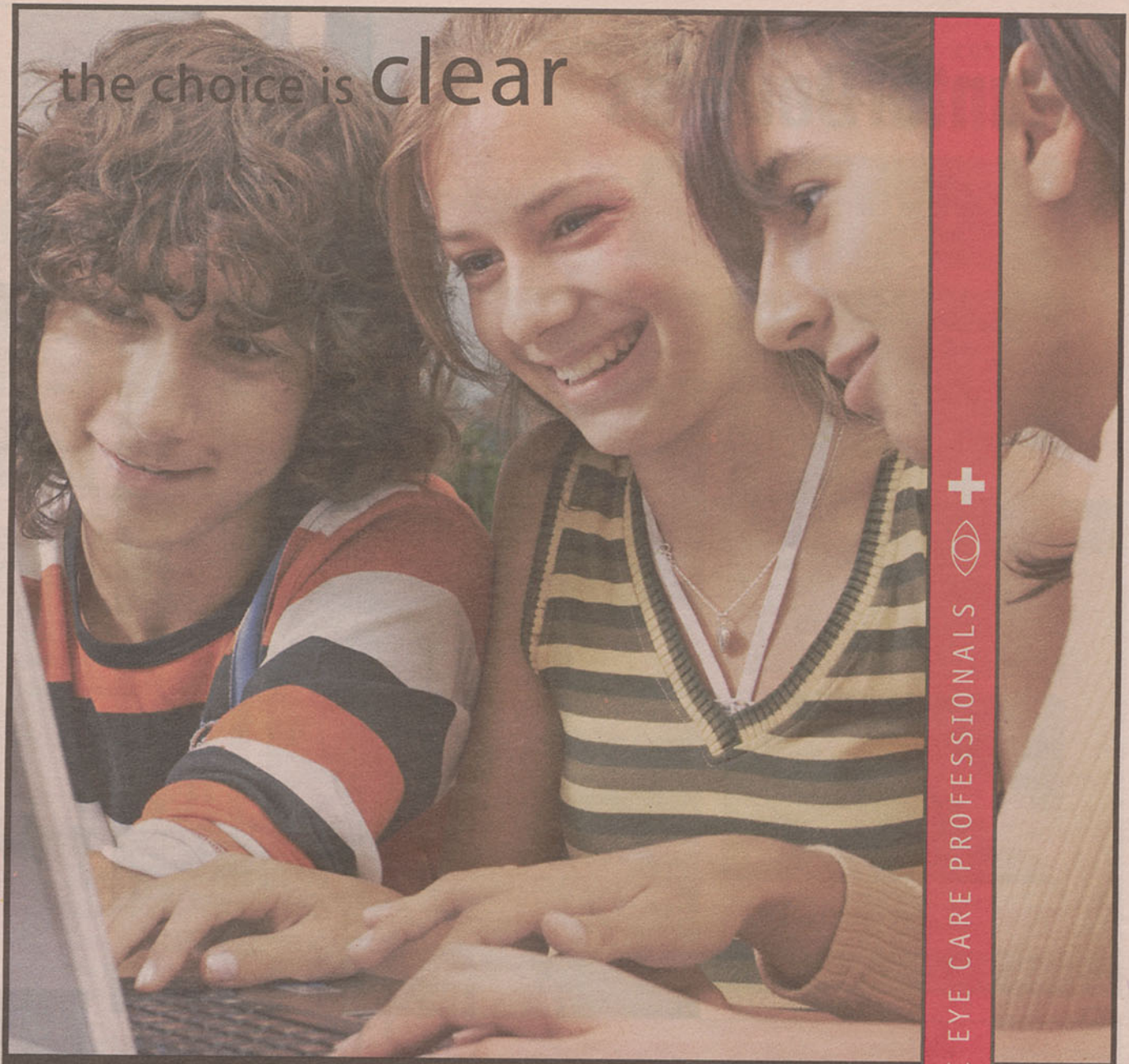
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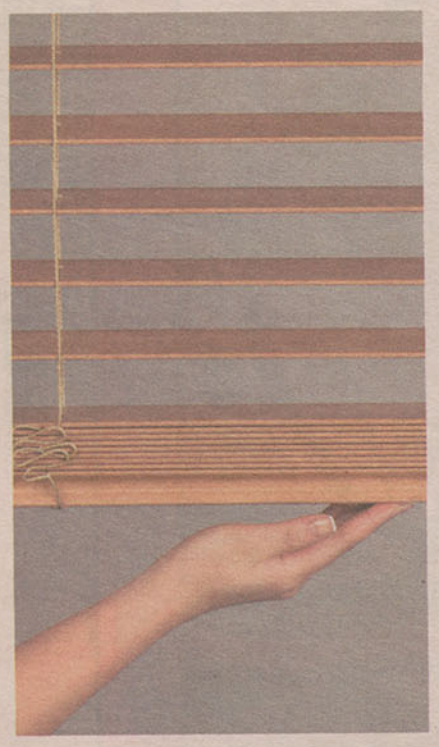

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Ann Arbor Observer

September 2011 vol. 36 • no. 1

Cover: *New Mott from Mitchell.* Watercolor by Steve Gilzow.

features

25 Borders' Last Days
The death of a once-beloved institution.
Eve Silberman

29 Hoke's Luck / Square Pegs
James Militzer *Craig Ross*

33 Happy Talk
In Paul Schutt's online magazines, all the news is good.
Michael Betzold

37 Team UMS
How Ken Fischer saved the venerable concert presenter—and led it into the post-impresario age
James Leonard

departments

9 Up Front
Sally Mitani, Jeff Mortimer, David Erik Nelson, Eve Silberman

11 Inside Ann Arbor
Tim Athan, James Leonard, Jan Schlain, CarolynRose Stone, David Wak

19 Crime Map

21 Ann Arborites
Superintendent Pat Green
Eve Silberman

23 My Town
Jan Schlain

41 Restaurant Reviews
Mani Osteria
Lee Lawrence
The Ravens Club
M.B. Lewis

45 Marketplace Changes
Tony McReynolds & Sally Mitani

91 Back Page
Sally Bjork & Jay Forstner

what's happening

53 Events
John Hinchey & Stephanie Douglass
Daily events in Ann Arbor during September, plus listings of Films, p. 69, new exhibits at local Galleries, p. 59, and reviews of poet Franz Wright, the Fishtank Ensemble, Polish jazz duo Mikrokolektyw, the Wayward Sisters, the short story compilation *Ghost Writers,* and the Homegrown Festival (left).

50 Music at Nightspots
John Hinchey
Shows at the Ark, the Blind Pig, and more, plus a review of Alejandra O'Leary.

92 Events at a Glance

advertising sections

84 Classifieds & Personals 90 Services
85 Real Estate Section / Home Sales Map *Kevin Duke*
90 Advertiser Index

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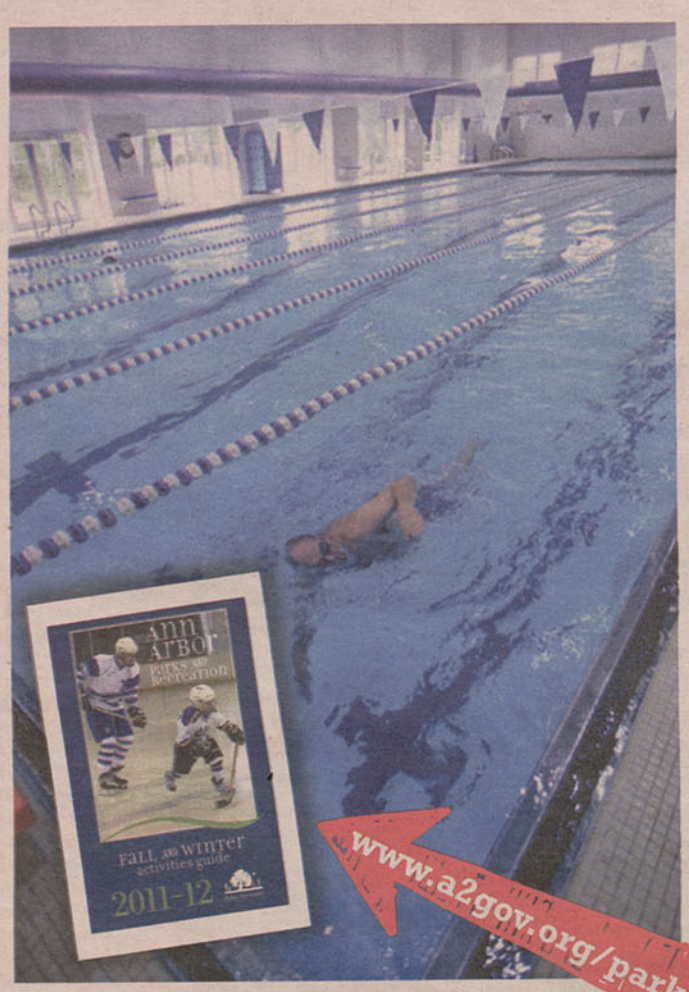

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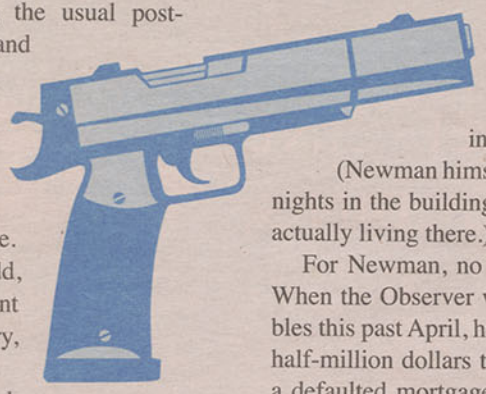
Concealed Carry: Appearing on bulletin boards in places including the Washtenaw Dairy and Stadium Hardware, Dan O'Bryan's bold-lettered signs stand out among the usual postings for painters and handy people. "FIREARMS COURSES / Concealed Pistol License Training," they announce. O'Bryan, they add, is a "Special Agent for U.S. Treasury, Retired."



Affable and chatty, O'Bryan has long hair that makes him look more like an aging hippie than a federal agent. He explains that he supplements his federal pension by working part-time as a "court liaison" for the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Department and offering classes to gun owners. He currently has about a dozen students who pay $125 for eight hours of instruction, including time on a firing range. Though he carefully rehearses them, he says, some students are "very nervous" the first time they pull the trigger.

O'Bryan doesn't ask students why they want weapons permits, but says that several have told him they're hoping for careers in law enforcement. Another was an attorney who practices in federal court in Detroit. But he turned away one potential student who "seemed somewhat incoherent" on the phone and who, when questioned, reluctantly revealed he had a firearm conviction. (Michiganders convicted of a felony or certain misdemeanors are not allowed to carry concealed weapons.)

While training people to carry concealed pistols, O'Bryan does not welcome the new "open carry" movement that encourages gun-owners to openly flaunt their weapons. "I believe in the Second Amendment. Also, I believe in a time and place," he says. "You don't have to push the envelope all the time."

Newman's Win: Town Center Plaza on S. Fourth Ave. looks just as it has for years: Eastern Accents, Bandito's, and Salon Vertigo are going about their respective businesses, and even Fred, landlord Dale Newman's parrot, is still living in the basement. (Newman himself also spends many nights in the building, but won't admit to actually living there.)

For Newman, no news is good news. When the Observer wrote about his troubles this past April, he needed more than a half-million dollars to bail himself out of a defaulted mortgage, the roof was leaking, and he himself was possibly headed for jail, since he owed the city $30,000 in parking tickets.

How did Newman reclaim the building from foreclosure? "I got a $1.3 million mortgage, and right now I'm getting bids for a green roof," he says. "This particular type of green roof is the Cadillac—or the Mercedes, depending on how you feel about cars—of green roofs."

And what about those parking tickets, accumulated on many vehicles, under many business names, over many years? "Oh," Newman says breezily, "the city dropped all the charges."

"He still owes us the parking ticket money," responds assistant city attorney Robert West by email. "Nothing has been dropped. I'm glad to hear that his fortunes have improved. Now we can start going after him again for what he owes."

Squirrel heaven: When a westside resident asked why he was seeing new varieties of squirrels in his backyard, U-M zoologist Philip Myers decided to check it out for himself.

What he found was "squirrel heaven" in Eberwhite Woods. "Every species of squirrel found in southern Michigan is probably present in the woods or nearby," he emails. "The huge oaks and hickories provide abundant food and shelter, and are especially favorable for the gray and fox squirrels. Females of both species undoubtedly crank out litter after litter. When those babies reach adult size and disperse, they are unable to compete with established adults for territories and spill out into [the Eberwhite] neighborhood."

Myers says several factors can affect the number and variety of squirrels seen in a given area: a hawk nesting in the neighborhood can reduce it, coyotes "may be picking off the fox squirrels, which are easier to catch because they tend to be on the ground more," and the new fur that grows on squirrels who have survived mange often looks different from the rest of their coat. "All these things happen," notes Myers. "You just don't usually see them happen in your backyard."

Rose Martin Struggles: A year ago, Rose Martin, the charismatic former director of Peace Neighborhood Center, incorporated Rose's Good Company. She says her five-year-old, one-woman charity helps adults who "fall between the cracks"—her clients, many of them former prisoners, turn to her for everything from getting a cell phone to finding a job. But, to her disappointment, incorporation and nonprofit status have actually hurt donations—"we're getting less because people think, 'They're a 501(c)(3)—they have no problem staying afloat!'" says Martin.

Martin is now reluctant to take on new clients, but she continues to work with the ones she already has. Three dozen of them regularly volunteer to drive other people in need to interviews or grocery stores, either in their own cars or in Martin's SUV. But her ex-cons aren't welcome everywhere. She says she offered to have them escort women frightened about this summer's wave of sexual assaults—but "they don't want us."

Media Moment: Even in Ann Arbor, not everyone has air-conditioning—a truth apparently lost on some young local hoodlums. On a hot night in early August, a couple living on Ann Arbor's south side were cooling off in their darkened living room when they heard boisterous voices and the rattle of a chain on the sidewalk just outside their open windows.

Creeping to a window, the couple saw five young men in T-shirts and basketball sneakers crowded beneath the streetlight, laughing and swearing. As one teen rifled through several apparently stolen purses, the couple heard another boast: "That Ann Arbor Observer's gonna be reporting about a crime spree in this neighborhood!"

A well-timed bellow from the homeowner sent the ne'er-do-wells scurrying away. Police arrived minutes later, pincering in from either side of the neighborhood, but the boys vanished, fleeing on foot toward County Farm Park.

They abandoned the purses as they ran, and the police determined they had indeed been stolen. The teenage thieves had evidently been walking for a while in search of their moment of fame: according to the officers, the ID in one purse came from an address on the Old West Side, three miles away. ■

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Pipe Dream?

"One way or another, dispensaries are going to be short-lived," predicts Ann Arbor mayor John Hieftje.

In 2008, a hefty 63 percent of Michigan voters approved a ballot proposal legalizing medical marijuana. Just days later, it seemed, "dispensaries" selling marijuana opened across the state—including eight in Ann Arbor before city council slapped on a moratorium.

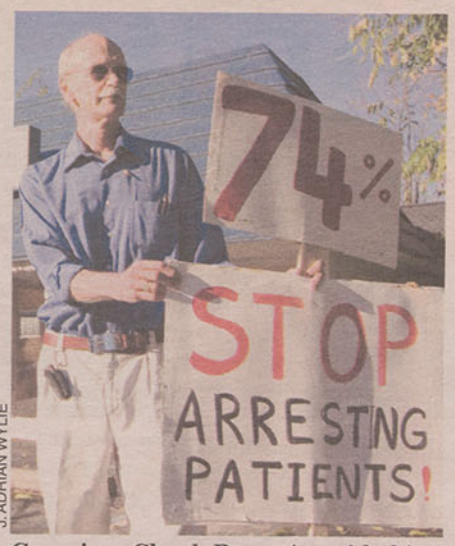
"Dispensaries were open before we knew anything," says First Ward councilperson Sabra Briere. "We were playing catch-up all along." But play they did, and after a year's deliberations, the council passed a law allowing fifteen dispensaries to operate in prescribed areas.

"We took our time to get it right," says Mayor Hieftje, "though it wouldn't surprise me if we had to go back and tweak it."

Hieftje says the reason it took so long is that "the state legislature dropped the ball completely on this one. Instead of one clear state law set by the legislature, every [municipality's] laws are different. That's why there're so many lawsuits going on: the legislature did not provide the necessary legal framework."

Longtime medical marijuana advocate Chuck Ream was often critical of the city during the year of refining, but says he's happy with the result. "Council should be congratulated," says Ream, partner in the MedMaRX dispensary on Packard. "They did a good job at balancing the interest of patients and the Ann Arbor community."

But it may all come to nothing if, as Hieftje expects, either the judiciary or the legislature moves to shut down Michigan's burgeoning marijuana sales business. As the mayor points out, the ballot issue the voters approved has "nothing in it about dispensaries one way or another." Last winter, a court in Isabella County rejected the county prosecutor's attempt to shut down a Mount Pleasant dispensary, but in June, the state court of appeals agreed to hear the case, and that conservative court is likely to rule that the law doesn't permit dispensaries—a position likely to be upheld by the even more conservative state supreme court.



J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Caregiver Chuck Ream (outside his Ann Arbor dispensary last fall) may soon have more to protest.

"If the courts change the law, we will abide by the law," says Briere. "The dispensaries would have to close—all of them."

Ream sees things differently. "Clearly, yes, the law does allow it, especially if the local city says it's okay. The law was written very carefully not to say anything one way or another about dispensaries, because if they'd put anything in, it would have lowered the number of 'Yes' votes [on the proposal]." And even if the state rules against the businesses, Ream adds, "in Ann Arbor, the law specifically allows dispensaries to exist, so it could carve out a legal bubble. After all, here in Ann Arbor, we've been different since the $5 pot fine passed forty years ago."

"It was certainly *not* the intention of anybody on city council to create an area of protection where we're flouting state law," says Briere. Besides, says city attorney Stephen Postema, "state law always trumps local law."

"If it's not decided by a court, the legislature, which is just as conservative as the supreme court, will take it up and strike it down," Hieftje concludes. "One way or another, dispensaries are going to be short-lived."

If the issue does go to the legislature, Ream hopes for their understanding. "The Republicans might pass a very restrictive bill, but they're simply going to have to allow some dispensaries," he insists. "Patients are not going to go out and find some old hippie to be their caregiver!"

Stay-at-Home Seniors

Baby boomers opt out of retirement homes.

Faced with death, W. C. Fields said he'd "rather be in Philadelphia." Faced with old age, the postwar generation says they'd rather stay home.

"In 2008, the economy changed, and that helped change the attitude of a lot of the baby boomer generation," says Denise Rabidoux, CEO of Evangelical Homes of Michigan. The 132-year-old Detroit-based nonprofit started serving orphans of German immigrants and later expanded into retirement communities in southeastern Michigan, including Saline's Evangelical Home.

"When older adults tried to sell their homes, they found they weren't worth what they thought," Rabidoux explains. "And then they realized they didn't want to *sell* their homes; they wanted to *stay* in their homes."

The rapid drop in housing prices accelerated a generational shift in attitudes towards nursing homes, and it could have scared providers witless: what would happen to all those retirement and assisted-living communities, and worse, what would happen to the industry's model for the future? But where some saw a crisis, Evangelical Homes and a few others saw an opportunity.

"We're generally 99 to 100 percent full now," Rabidoux says. But even if they wanted to, "we couldn't build retirement communities fast enough to keep up with the increasing number of older adults. And the cost is enormous: $60 to $80 million per facility. But why build them if they weren't going to come anyway? We asked ourselves, 'Is there any reason why we can't deliver the same environment at home?' And the answer was, 'There's no reason why not. No service is impossible to deliver in the comfort of the individual's own home.'

"So we aggressively acquired two local home-care service providers—a branch of Helping Hands Nursing Service and the Medicare-certified home health care division of Arbor Hospice." Together, Rabidoux says, they cost nearly $2 million. Though Evangelical Homes changed the names, they kept the staffs, and three years later, most are still with them, expanding the nonprofit's ranks from 680 to 1,000 employees.

Big employment growth has been accompanied by bigger client growth: from 660 in 1999 to nearly 2,000 in 2010 and an estimated 2,500 by the end of this year. Rabidoux says their biggest growth is in home-care services, and the nonprofit's nursing homes have been largely converted from residential to rehabilitation facilities. About a quarter of their clients now receive care at home, and most of the rest remain for relatively short rehabilitation stays before returning home. "The traditional nursing home as we used to know it is now only a small portion of our business," says Rabidoux.

Along with the new care model, Evangelical Homes has developed a new financial model: through their LifeChoices and LifeChoice Solutions programs, they promise to provide everything from shoveling the snow and modifying a bathroom to hospice care. "For a one-time membership fee [of] between $35,000 and $50,000, plus a monthly fee of $400, the older adult will be cared for for life," says Rabidoux. "Our focus is on health and wellness and preventing life-altering diseases—because our goal is to keep them happy, healthy, and safe in their homes for life."

She's not kidding about "in their homes." When a client must be hospitalized, they're back home, on average,

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in seventeen to twenty-four days. "Having older adults return to home as soon as possible is so important to their recovery," says Rabidoux. "There now exist technical devices which allow them to go home and still be in constant connection with qualified caregivers so they don't bounce back."

Will that still work in 2030, when the number of Americans over sixty-five will hit 71 million and the strain on the system will be gigantic? While Evangelical Homes won't share their actuarial tables, Rabidoux says that "the program is financially sound, and member fees are set aside and utilized when the client needs services." And, she says, seven other organizations around the country are already doing the same thing, many of them "very successful."

It's working for Evangelical Homes. Since 2008, their operating revenues have gone from $41 to $46 million. They haven't kept it all: the religious-based nonprofit provides $2 million worth of charitable services and support annually, and 50 percent of those they serve are poor or receive state subsidies through the Medicaid program.

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

"Most people worry about losing money," says Vinology co-owner John Jonna (l., with chef Jim Leonardo). "We don't, because we can always start again."

Restaurant Reset

"I thought the menu was just wrong," says Jim Leonardo.

"In Europe, there is a rich tradition of wine pairing," says Leonardo, the new chef at Vinology. On Main Street in Ann Arbor, however, it's been a bumpy, uphill road.

"We've been through several chefs," says Vinology co-owner John Jonna. "Our concept here, my daughter [Kristin] and I, is to have the wine, and make a meal for the wine. It's reverse thinking. Chefs normally don't think that way."

Kristin, currently on maternity leave from her position as general manager, and her father opened the restaurant in 2005, in partnership with John Padmos and their landlords, Chet Czaplicka, Jon Carlson, and Greg Lobdell. Carlson and Lobdell sold their shares several years ago.

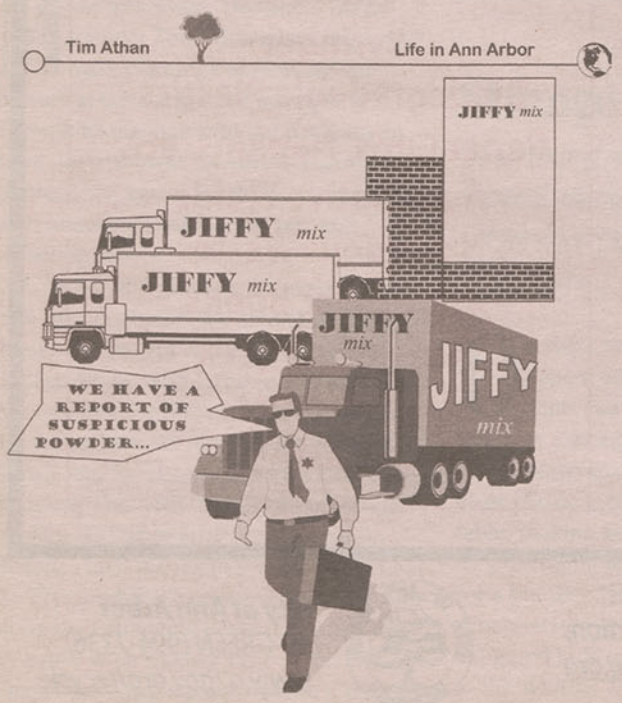
One chef, Brandon Johns, took Vinology in a strong locavore direction—then left to found the ultra-local Grange Kitchen. His successor tried to bring in a "really strong Asian influence," Leonardo says. "That didn't work at all." Patient and entrepreneurial, Jonna decided to rethink everything.

The Jonnas are Chaldeans—"Middle Eastern Christian," Jonna explains. His parents immigrated to Detroit from Iraq in 1949, and his father started out working "in a little bitty grocery store, because that was the only job he could get." Jonna is one of eight children, and the only one who went to college.

The family saved up, and eventually owned two grocery stores and a liquor store. But in 1968, when Jonna was a U-M undergrad, all three stores were burned during the riots.

"All of us went to work," Jonna recalls. He got a job as a janitor, mopping floors at Hudson's. One brother went to work in construction and eventually formed his own company. Another became a Realtor. "My other brother, Eddie, started Merchant of Vino. All of this after the riots, with zero income. With zero money. I mean zero."

Jonna took a job at his brother's store. At first, he recalls, they sold cheap, screw-top wines, two bottles for eighty-eight cents—"Thunderbird wine, MD 20/20, Ripple." When a man came in and asked them to carry Lambrusco, they had to go out and buy a corkscrew. They gave customers free samples, sold 100 cases, and were on their way to being one of Detroit's biggest wine merchants. Whole Foods



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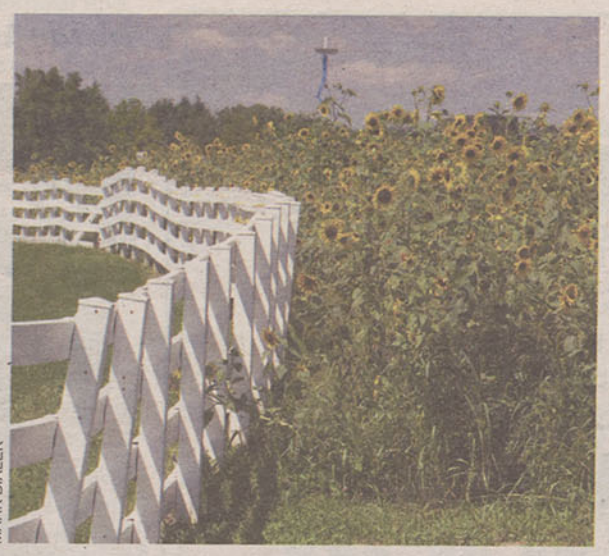
bought what had grown to be a six-store chain in 1997; Eddie's sons, Matt and Marc, now run Plum Market.

"Most people worry about losing money," Jonna says. "We don't, because we can always start again." So once he concluded that Vinology wasn't working well, he started talking to Leonardo about redoing the entire menu.

That was in 2009. "It was a long process," says Leonardo. "I just kind of sat outside for a while, and walked up and down the street, just trying to get an idea for what was in the neighborhood, *and* what the competition was. What was lacking?"

He returned to the Jonnas' original idea—food chosen to complement wine—but with an entirely new menu. Several items—beef short ribs, loin of lamb, Amish chicken ballotine—are seasoned, vacuum-packed, and cooked in a water bath for as long as three days. It's the first time this process, called *sous vide*, has been used in Washtenaw County. "Our health inspector says he actually had to go to the U.S. Department of Agriculture to work with us and help us design the [food safety] program," Leonardo says.

"Before working here, my wine knowledge was pretty minimal," Leonardo admits. But, he says, "It's changed my concepts for cooking a lot—it makes me reexamine the flavors and how they change with wine. The ultimate goal of this restaurant, which has become my goal, is creating food that makes wine taste better."



MARK BIALEK

Six hundred pounds of seed in May turns into thousands of sunflowers by September.

Sunflower Splendor

"It was Mr. Monaghan's idea," says Todd Crocker.

Many years ago, Domino's Pizza founder Tom Monaghan requested mass plantings of summer sunflowers at the company's headquarters. Though Monaghan sold the company in 1998, he still owns Domino's Farms—where, once again, the fields are jammed with maturing sunflower plants and crowning blooms.

Crocker, the grounds manager and the man who engineers the annual plantings, admits the project is one of the year's largest. Along with farming 105 acres of hay and tending 300 acres of turf, planting the sunflowers requires the skills of a farmer and the perspective of a landscape designer. This year, it took about a week to plant 600 pounds of seed—Autumn Beauties on a pie-shaped wedge of land at the Plymouth/Earhart entrance, in a swath along the entrance's white fence line, and on a new wide mound west of Ave Maria Chapel; and Mammoth Greys in a new, far-as-the-eye-can-see field near the petting farm.

The sunflowers bring with them their own entourage: *plein air* painters, photographers, "very few" flower snatchers, and a big increase in wildlife along the tree line. Julie Craves, supervisor of avian research at U-M Dearborn's Rouge River Bird Observatory, says Ford Motor Company's sunflower fields there draw tractor-following crows in the spring, while little seed-eaters—white crowned, fox, and chipping sparrows—stick around through the winters, eating well. A multitude of raptors follow those little birds.

A contracted farmer with a combine (the one piece of equipment Domino's Farms doesn't own) harvests the seeds in the fall. "We use it to feed the birds," says Crocker—unless they've already eaten everything while it's still in the fields. When the birds really pick over the heads, he says, "some years it's not worth it" to harvest the remaining seeds.

If you plant them, they will come. Crocker takes great pleasure watching cars stop and families climb out to enjoy the yellow-crowned fields. Children have their pictures taken on their parents' shoulders next to the nine-foot stalks, craning their necks to see the bobbing giant that seems to touch the late-summer clouds. Thanks to the late planting, a hot summer, and just-right rain, this year's flowers will last well into September.

Strange Percussion

"Anything you could hit that would make a noise would serve our purpose," says Lev Gartman.

On stage in the Angell Elementary School auditorium, seven U-M students stand behind a pair of folding tables as a group of Angell kids looks on. The onstage students are holding long, clear plastic tubes, which they tap on the table, making hollow-sounding notes. After pretending to fool around awkwardly for a bit, they launch into a fast, perfectly synchronized sequence of beats, until the delighted kids realize it's a silly version of the *William Tell Overture*.

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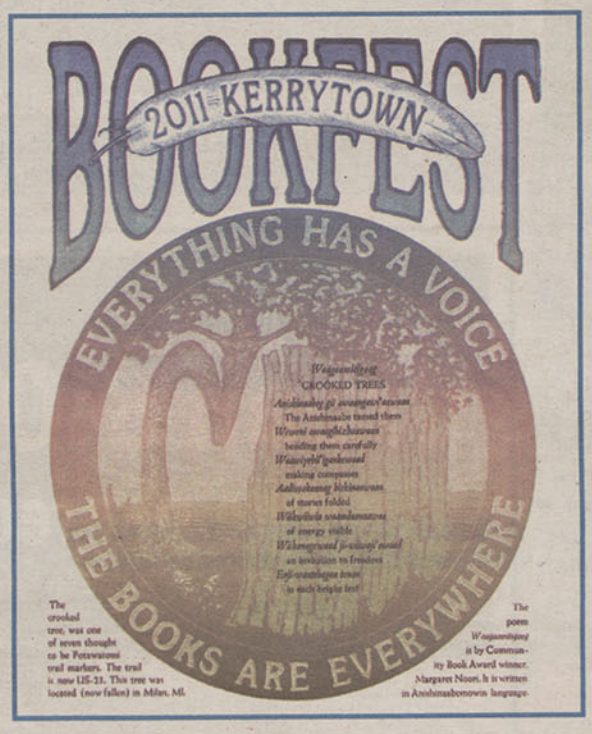
2011 Kerrytown BookFest

The 9th Annual Kerrytown BookFest celebrating "Michigan Voices"

Sunday, September 11, 11 a.m.–5 p.m.

National Book Award Winner Jaimy Gordon • National Book Award Finalist Bonnie Jo Campbell
New York Times bestselling author Louise Penny • Caledecott Medalist Erin Stead



Main Tent

11 a.m. Ari Weinzweig discusses Anishnaabe (Ojibwe) poetry with Community Book Award Winner **Margaret Noori**

Noon National Book Award winner **Jaimy Gordon** interviewed by writer **Doug Stanton.**

1 p.m. Award winning mystery writer **Louise Penny**

2 p.m. "Michigan Voices: a Sense of Place": historical fiction writer **D.E. Johnson** leads a discussion with **Laura Kasischke, Bonnie Jo Campbell, Michael Federspeil, & William Whitbeck**

3 p.m. "Science Fiction Voices": **Steven Piziks, Jim C. Hines, David Erik Nelson & Carrie Harris.**

4 p.m. "Counterculture Voices": **Harvey Ovshinsky** leads a discussion with **Brett Callwood, Susan Whitall, & Ken Wachsberger.**

Kerrytown Concert House

11 a.m. Announcement of the 4th Annual Book Cover Design Contest winners with judges **Alvey Jones & Jack Summers**

Noon "Working Voices" **Lolita Hernandez** leads a discussion of work as portrayed in fiction & poetry with **M.L. Liebler, Jeff Vande Zande & Ken Meisel**

1 p.m. "Detroit Voices" writer **Dorene O'Brien** leads a discussion of Detroit's past & future with **John Gallagher, Dan Austin & Sean Doerr** & NPR reporter **Kate Davidson.**

2 p.m. "Victorian History Mystery": **Patti O'Brien** leads a discussion with historical mystery writers **Tasha Alexander, Maureen Jennings & Stefanie Pintoff**

3 p.m. "The Art of the Thriller": writer **Karen Dionne** leads a discussion with **Brian Freeman, Andrew Grant & Mark Terry**

4 p.m. "Michigan Civil War Voices": a discussion led by author **Jack Dempsey** with **Rick Liblong, Kim Crawford & Martin Bertera.**

Children's Tent

Noon award winning children's author **Deborah Diesen** reads and leads a sing along. Second program at 12:30.

1 p.m. Caldecott Medalist Erin Stead and author **Philip Stead**

2 p.m. Mother Goose

3 p.m. Heather O'Neal with true & fictional stories from Nepal

All day - children's craft activities provided by **Blue House**

Hollander's School

11 a.m. Ann Arbor Women Artists panel featuring **Catherine Hightower, Mia Risberg, Corinne Vivian, Kath Frajbis, and Katherine Willson**

Noon A discussion of Hollander's summer residency program with **Ruth Bardenstein, Barbara Brown, & Alvey Jones**

1 p.m. Julia Miller & Cathy Baker discuss new publications

2 p.m. Leslie Atzmon discusses curating a book arts show at EMU.

3 p.m. "Binding the Past and Present:" **Terri Barlow** and **Kevin Spall** of Thomson-Shore and **Jon Buller** of Bessenberg Bindery discuss the acquisition of Buller's firm, the history of their companies, and the future of book-making in our area.

4 p.m. Laura Russell: Marketing for Book Artists

Hollander's Kitchen

Noon Jaye Beeler and Dianne Burdick offer a presentation from their book *Tasting & Touring Michigan's Homegrown Food*

2 p.m. Editor Jane Shallal presents *Ma Baseema: Chaldean Middle Eastern Cooking with a Chaldean Flair.*

Outdoor Workshops in the Farmer's Market

Noon author of the **Ellie McDoodle** books, **Ruth McNally Barshaw,** gives a drawing workshop for pre-teens and any one else interested!

1:30 workshop with **Ruth Bardenstein**

3:00 workshop with **Candra Gill**

Ann Arbor Farmers Market, 410 N. Fourth Avenue and Kingsley

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Inside Ann Arbor

DAVID WAK

Groove's Nate Root plays "Doc Oc" at the U-M spring commencement.

This is Groove, and tubes and tables aren't the only odd instruments they play. The multi-talented U-M student collective's lively, entertaining performances feature skits, dancing, singing, and percussion pieces played on aluminum ladders, propane tanks, garbage cans, and other unlikely objects. And outreach programs like this in the public schools are just the tip of the iceberg—they also do two big concerts a year and perform at special events, including this year's U-M commencement.

Gartman, who founded Groove in 2003, calls it the "love child" of the English group Stomp and the New York–based Blue Man Group. One of Groove's first instruments was a xylophone made from a barricade that Gartman and a friend "borrowed" from a NYC street and took back to Michigan. They cut pipes to make the notes they wanted, attached them to the barricade, and played it with hammers. One of their first tunes was a version of "Hey Ya," the big hit by the R & B group Outkast.

Of all their strange instruments, perhaps the strangest is "Doc Oc," named for a Spiderman villain. Made of different lengths of curved PVC pipe, it has a harness that allows the player to carry it on his or her back. Played with handmade paddles made of wood and sponge, it makes a deep yet airy sound. It looks and sounds bizarre, yet cool.

Groove plays for audiences as small as the Angell School assembly, and as large as this spring's commencement. As about 44,000 people found their seats at Michigan Stadium, Groove members climbed aluminum stepladders, playing the metal crosspieces with drumsticks as they stepped up or jumped down. They also played their trademark garbage cans, water barrels, and racks of plastic buckets cut to different sizes. Called "bucket tenors," these are played much like the racks of tom-toms used by marching bands.

At times, as many as half of Groove's thirty or so members have come from the Michigan Marching Band drumline. But "not everyone in the group has a percussion background," says musical director Meredith Hoffman. In fact, Groove has rejected technically great drummers because they lacked stage presence. "We're

looking for entertainers," Hoffman says.

For most of the year the group practices for two hours twice a week, but in the two weeks leading up to their big fall and winter shows, they practice for six hours every day. "It really taught me to manage my time," says member Josh Simon.

Once they graduate, most Groove members move on from music. Since 2008, however, a select few have continued to play in a professional strange-percussion group called Juice. Member and spokesman Brandon Krieg says Juice plays around forty shows a year at theaters, music festivals, and colleges all over the country.

Groove plays outside the U-M Museum of Art on September 1 (see Events). Their big shows are scheduled for December 3, 2011, and March 23, 2012, at the Michigan Theater.

question corner

Q. How are drivers (and cyclists) to make sense of the new lane markings on Catherine St. between Fourth Ave. and Main? There's a bike lane down the middle of the street with traffic on either side. Would any sensible cyclist ever use it? Every driver going west across Main must drive down the bike lane.

A. Bike lanes are suggestions, not orders. This one is a guide for the cross-car-lane jog that bicyclists have always had to navigate to continue west onto Miller. The lane encourages cyclists to cross over to the bike lane mid-block, rather than stay at the curb and dodge cars making right turns. A similar lane has long been in place on the east side of Fifth Ave. as it approaches Packard.

Got a question? Email question@aaobserver.com.

calls & letters

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Pastor change

Ok-Joo Jeong emailed to update the City Guide's listing for the Ann Arbor Hope Christian Reformed Church: "The pastors are Pastor Joseph Hun-Suk Bae and Pastor John Kim, instead of Thomas Humphreys."

Michigan Voices

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BOOKFEST 2011 KERRYTOWN

Sunday, September 11,
11 a.m.–5 p.m. • Ann Arbor Farmers Market

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Main Tent

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Noori

Kerrytown Concert House

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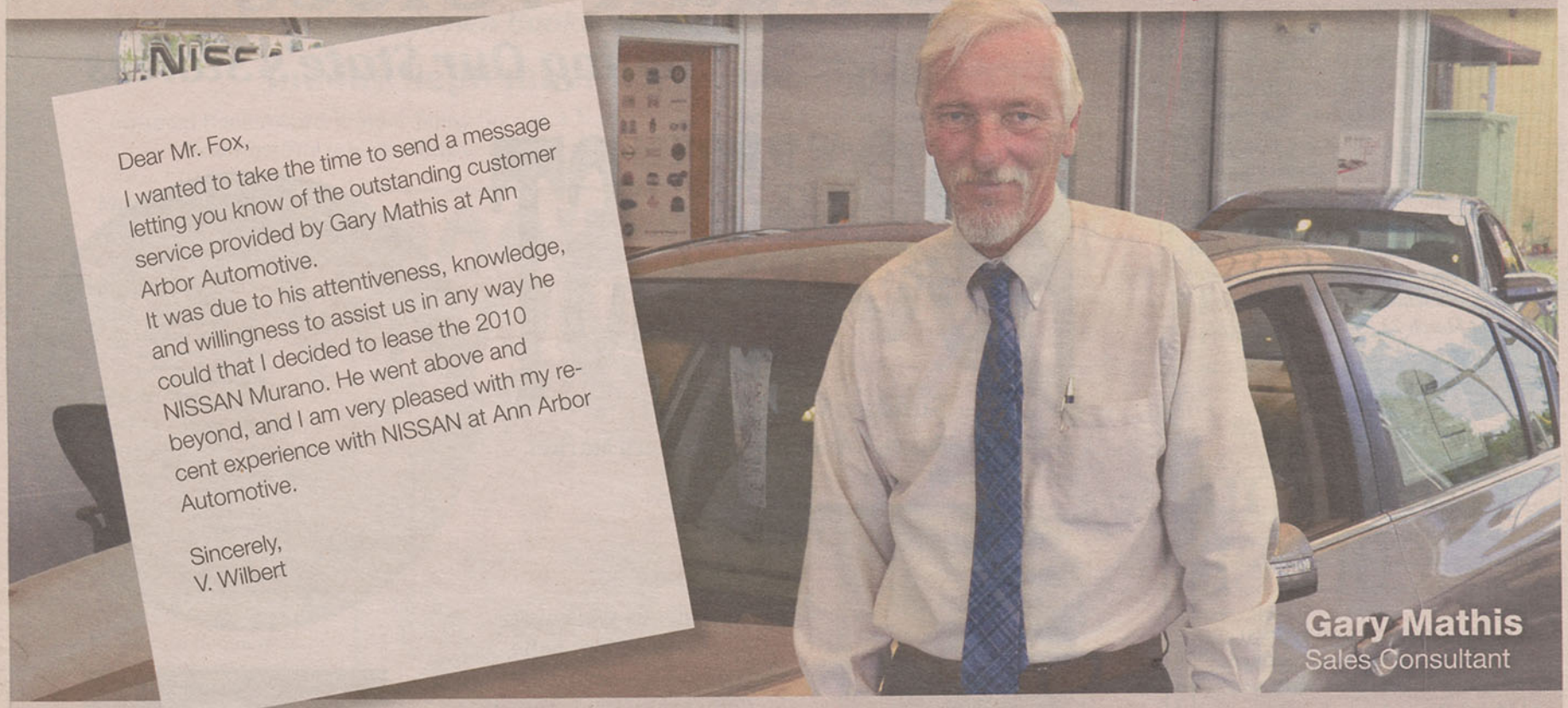
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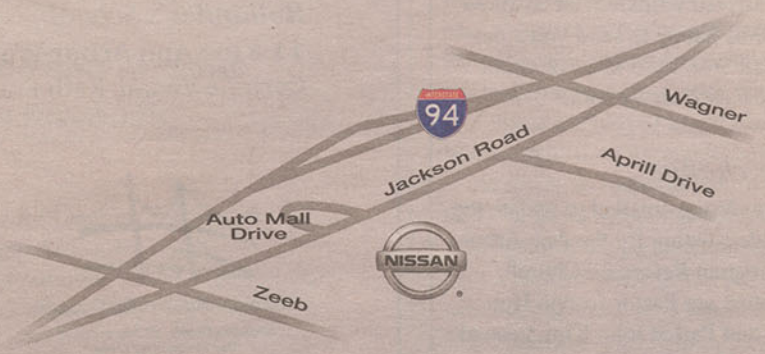

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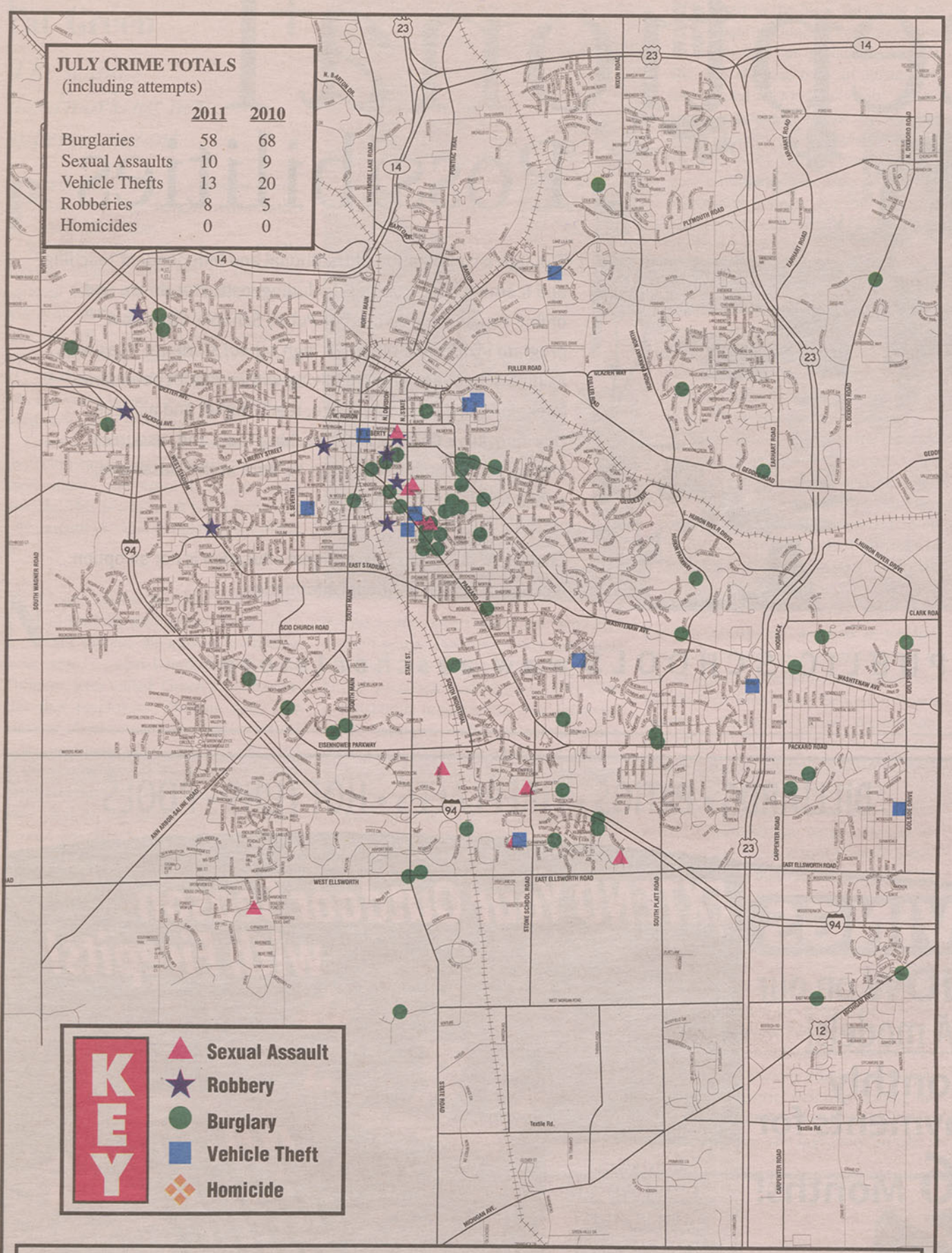

These are the major crimes and attempted crimes at Ann Arbor addresses reported by the Ann Arbor Police Department and the public safety departments of the U-M and Pittsfield Township in **July 2011.** Placement is approximate.

The Ann Arbor and Pittsfield departments are transitioning to a centralized record-keeping system run by crimemapping.com. They were unable to distinguish crimes from attempts, or sexual assults by acquaintances from assaults by strangers, in time for the Observer's deadline.

If you need police help in an emergency, call **911.** If you have information about a crime, call your police department's **anonymous 24-hour tip line: 996–3199 in Ann Arbor, (800) 863–1355 on campus,** or **944–1238 in Pittsfield.** If you have questions about a crime shown here, call **Ann Arbor Neighborhood Watch (994–8775, Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–4 p.m.),** the **U-M Department of Public Safety (763–1131),** or the **Pittsfield Department of Public Safety (944–4911).**

The box at the top of the map compares the number of crimes reported in July 2011 and July 2010.

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Pat Green

The schools' hardworking new superintendent

Pat Green is rarely at a loss for words. But even she winces when asked about The Salary.

Whenever the Ann Arbor Public Schools' financial struggles are discussed on local blogs, it's certain that someone will gripe about the school board's decision, last fall, to raise the superintendent's pay. After Todd Roberts, who earned $175,000 a year, left for a better-paying job, a divided board voted to increase the position's salary to $245,000.

Green's discussion of her pay is uncharacteristically brief. "It was an advertised salary," she says. "It was an open process. This is a difficult job. I will work 150 percent of what people expect me to do."

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

No one doubts that she will. "They all said the same thing about her—'She just has the most indescribable work ethic,'"—says board member Andy Thomas, who called Green's references. Her past employers, Thomas says, told him that "Green's car is the first [to arrive] at the beginning of the day and [the last] to leave at the end of the day." In her first month on the job, Green met individually with each of the board members, interviewed ten deputy superintendent candidates, toured most of the district's schools, attended various community events and moved into her office over the Fourth of July weekend. Her husband, Steve, a periodontist who continues to work three days a week in Maryland, "sat on a chair, and he watched me climb a ladder," Green says.

She needed that ladder to post all the certificates and awards she's collected during forty years as a teacher and administrator. One frame holds the cover of *Child* magazine from 1991, when Green was the principal of an elementary school the magazine named one of the "ten best" in the country. But Green says the honor that makes her proudest is the "Spirit of Unity" award she received last winter from a Pittsburgh organization that promotes racial harmony. Although her suburban district was 93 percent white, she worked with nearby districts to bring people of different races together.

Soon after the award was announced, she submitted her resignation to the North Allegheny School District. Though at sixty-two she could have retired, she says, "the thought of not seeking another challenge, to me, flies in the face of [using] the talents that God gave me."

Though she dresses formally—pinstriped jacket, white blouse, pearl necklace—Green is chatty, approachable, and straightforward. She sounds more like an inspirational speaker than a bureaucrat. "I have a tremendous work ethic and a belief in people," she says. "That synergistic, fun-loving energy can be brought to bear on issues."

Raised in the New York City borough of Queens, Pat Pataky was educated in parochial schools. She says she was both an outstanding student and a "tomboy" who "played rough and tough" in the streets. Her father worked as a machinist in the Brooklyn Navy Yard for years and then, after earning an associate's degree at a community college, got into financial management and moved his family to the Washington, D.C., area.

Green says her mother always told her, "You are just as good as you think you are." The advice helped when Green learned that she could not be in Little League because she was a girl—a story she tells to girls and minority students to make the point that one barrier needn't determine a life's course.

She's still in touch with the seventh-grade teacher who inspired her to go into education, a nun who later left her order and adopted four children from El Salvador. Green earned an elementary ed degree at the University of Maryland, added a master's during the dozen years she spent in the classroom, and got her PhD shortly after moving into administration—first in wealthy Greenbelt, Maryland, then as principal of the struggling, predominantly black Columbia Park Elementary School in Prince George's County, outside Washington, D.C. That's where she won the magazine ranking, which led to a visit from Jesse Jackson. (The photo is on her desk.)

Many educators believe that a "charismatic" principal can be enormously effective in turning a school around; Green evidently filled that role. She opened the school on Saturdays to provide computer help for kids, showed up at neighborhood meetings no previous principal had ever attended, and even followed kids after class so she could meet their parents (instead of coming to the school, the parents were waiting several blocks away).

After six years at Columbia Park, Green moved up into various administrative positions in the district before accepting the top job at North Allegheny in 2002. Her assignment there, she says, was "to take a very good school district to the top level." During her tenure, student test scores (SAT, PSAT, ACT) climbed significantly, and various media ranked the district as among the top five in the state.

Green's wide range of experience impressed Ann Arbor school board members. Trustee Christine Stead says that as much as she liked previous superintendent Todd Roberts, Green may be able to "ease people into more aggressive decisions" than was her soft-spoken predecessor.

She arrives at a difficult time. The legislature cut state per-pupil funding again this year, while simultaneously rewriting the rules governing district-teacher relations—including higher pension contributions and a new law that bars districts from basing layoffs on seniority. Ann Arbor teachers are so upset that local union members joined the effort to recall governor Rick Snyder.

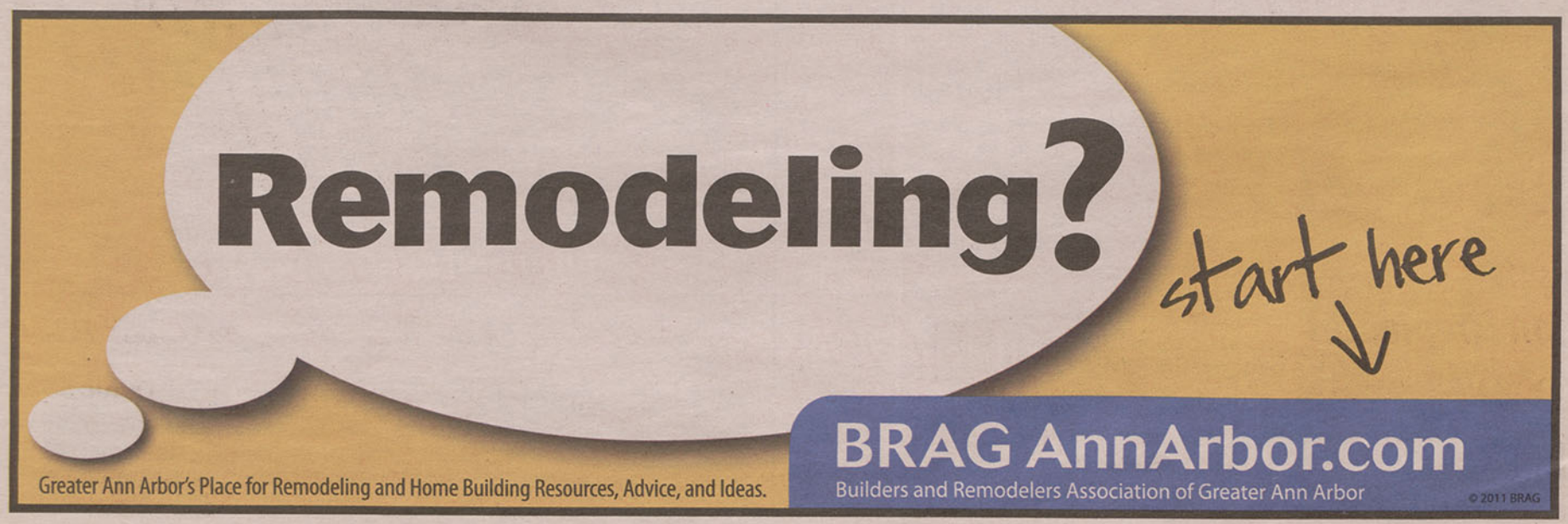
Green says she is troubled by what she calls "teacher bashing" in the current education debate. She says she had good relations with the teachers' union in her previous job, working with them on "best practices" and making national presentations with her union presidents.

Green is savvy enough not to make any sweeping pronouncements about her plans for Ann Arbor. Pressed for examples of ways the district might economize, though, she mentions doing more with technology, including "distance learning" and even linking Ann Arbor schools' sites with others (including those in her former district) for virtual exchanges.

In August, the board voted to put a $45 million technology millage on the ballot next February. Although a special-education millage was renewed this past May, no one assumes that this tax will be an easy sell.

As a district employee, Green can't campaign for the millage. But she's been outspoken about the need to prepare all kids for the digital world. It's a good bet that for the rest of the year, some of her incredible energy will go into getting out the word about why the millage is needed.

—Eve Silberman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The Missing Ticket

A tale of two collectors

Jack Briegel lives off a quiet dirt road, in a home he shares with Jeannette, his wife of fifty-three years. If you go straight in from the front door, you'll enter a living room decorated in Zen-like soft greens and earth tones. Turn right down the carpeted stairs, and you'll walk into something out of a boy's fantasy—a boy who loves and dreams about Michigan football.

The basement is filled with Michigan football memorabilia—footballs, photographs, stadium signs, and ticket stubs. "Ticket stubs is my number-one collection," says Briegel, who's wearing a well-pressed maize-and-blue button-down shirt. He has a stub for every home game since 1927—except one.

Born in Ann Arbor in 1937, Briegel grew up in a modest house on Rose Street with his parents and five siblings. His dad worked at the university, in the laundry, until he had a stroke. His mom took care of the family.

"There was no money," Briegel recalls. By the time he was nine years old, he was parking cars in the yard during football games. Once the last space was filled, his dad would give him and his brother a couple of bucks, and they'd get to watch the game.

In high school he worked at Naylor Motor Sales—emptying the trash, sweeping the place, cleaning the restrooms, dusting the cars in the showroom—three or four hours a night. His eldest brother, Jim, ran a printing press at Braun Brumfield. "They were just starting out, and they got the Michigan State commencement program. That is what you call a critical date," Briegel explains. "And they were behind on it … They needed some hands to do bindery work." So Jack's big brother went to Naylor's and started knocking on the door. "Pounded—until he got my attention. He asked me if I wanted to come to work for a dollar an hour, and I was making about thirty-seven cents an hour at the

time, so that sounded real good. I went out and helped them on that job, and when we finally got it done, the boss asked me if I'd like to stay on."

Briegel stayed for twenty-three years. Then, in 1975, he joined four partners to start their own printing company, McNaughton & Gunn, in Saline.

"That was a tough time to start a business," says Briegel. "We had this huge SBA loan." In the early 1980s "our interest rates went somewhere over 22 or 23 [percent]. We were really struggling."

At that point several partners bailed. Briegel stayed. "We shipped a million dollars' worth of books the first full year we were in business," he recalls. By 2001, the year he retired as vice president of manufacturing, they shipped $35 million's worth.

Back to Jack's basement. His collection of Michigan tickets includes games played at Regents Field, Ferry Field, and the Big House; seventeen are more than a hundred years old. The one he's missing has a story to it: from 1943, it "has 'Michigan State' on the ticket—but Western Michigan played the game.

"When season tickets went out," Briegel explains, "Michigan State was scheduled. There are two stories. That there was a polio epidemic on the MSU campus—or MSC in those days. Or, I also heard that because of the war years it depleted their rosters so much that they canceled the season."

For whatever reason, in 1943 Michigan State decided to drop football for the duration of the war. "Western was able to either cancel a date or had an open date," Briegel says, "and came down and played the game."

Despite a recent hip replacement, Briegel still looks forward to going to Michigan games this fall. He pays $20 to park at a house at Hutchins and Stadium and sits in Section 17. Now that Jeannette has a bad knee, he usually goes with a brother and a grandson. And he's still hoping to land that September 25, 1943, ticket stub.

Asked how much he would be willing to pay for it, Briegel laughs. "I want it pretty bad."

Briegel collects football programs, too, but another Ann Arbor collector has a bigger, better program collection. That person also has the 1943 home game ticket stub that Briegel is missing.

"I remember exactly where I was sitting," says Ken Magee, sitting outside his recently opened magic shop under Afternoon Delight on Liberty. "I was living in Washington, D.C., and I had all these programs shipped to me [by another collector]. I was flipping through the programs, and [the ticket stub] fell out.

"It was in the program that said Western Michigan. The ticket says Michigan State on it. There's only one collector I know that has it, and that's me."

Like Briegel, Magee was born in Ann Arbor, but his family had money. His father was a U-M neurologist, his mother a prison psychologist. They had a beautiful Tudor mansion off Hill Street, where Magee grew up playing with the Schembechler kids. He went to MSU, worked as a police officer in Jackson for a few years, then became a federal Drug Enforcement Administration agent in Detroit.

The DEA sent him to Bogotá, Colombia. When drug lord Pablo Escobar tried to send his family to safety in Germany, Magee followed and persuaded the German authorities to kick them out. When they returned to Colombia, Escobar made a series of angry phone calls that allowed the authorities to locate him—which, Magee says, "ultimately led to his death on the rooftop in Medellín, Colombia."

In 1996, on an anti-terrorism assignment at the Atlanta Olympics, "I was next to the bomb when the bomb went off, and I ultimately testified against the bomber, Eric Rudolph—the Olympic Park bomber." He gave first aid to the victims. "I worked on a little girl, who lived, and worked on her mother, who died."

In August 2008, at age fifty, Magee retired and returned to Ann Arbor. Three months later, he was hired as the U-M's Director of Public Safety. That job came and went, for reasons Magee doesn't want to talk about. "I'm on sick leave," he says, then adds, "That's irrelevant."

Once again, his retirement didn't last long: this summer he opened the magic shop, and by the end of August he planned to open a sports memorabilia shop just a few steps away, next to his friend Karl Lagler's Antelope Antiques.

Part of Magee's collection is already for sale in Lagler's store, but not the MSC–Western ticket stub. "I'm not sure why a lot of people say that ticket is so hard to find," he teases. Then he steps into his shop, reaches into his sports bag, and pulls out the stub, bolted between two pieces of thick plastic.

What would he take for it? "It's not for sale," Magee says. Yet, he hints, it still might end up in Jack Briegel's basement one day. "As a matter of fact," Magee says, "the reason I had it out was, I was thinking of just giving it to him … I've gone back and forth on that."

But wouldn't that leave his own collection with a hole in it? Not necessarily. Magee is still buying U-M memorabilia and still on the lookout for another Michigan State–Western Michigan stub. So is Briegel. If there's another one out there, both collectors may end up with the precious ticket.

—Jan Schlain

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Thursday, September 8
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Author of *Moby-Duck: The True Story of 28,000 Bath Toys Lost at Sea...*

On the 100th anniversary of his birth
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Thursday, September 22
7:10 p.m. | Rackham Amphitheatre

With special guests Robert Hass, Robert Pinsky, & Lillian Valleé

Screening of *The Magic Mountain*, 5:10 p.m. | Rackham Amphitheatre

Zell Distinguished Writer in Residence:
Fiction Reading & Public Reception

JENNIFER EGAN

Monday, October 3
5:10 p.m. | The Apse, UMMA

2011 Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *A Visit from the Goon Squad*

Lecture: Wednesday, October 5, 5:10 p.m. | Helmet Stern Auditorium

Alumni Reading

DEREK MONG & JESMYN WARD

Thursday, September 15
5:10 p.m. | Helmut Stern Auditorium

Homecoming for authors of *Other Romes* & *Salvage the Bones*

Poetry Reading

TONY HOAGLAND

Thursday, September 29
5:10 p.m. | Helmut Stern Auditorium

Winner of the Mark Twain Award for humor in American poetry

Fiction Reading

STACEY D'ERASMO

Thursday, October 6
5:10 p.m. | Helmut Stern Auditorium

Author of *New York Times* notables *Tea* and *The Sky Below*

Poetry Reading

CONNIE VOISINE

Thursday, October 20
5:10 p.m. | Helmut Stern Auditorium

Author of *Rare High Meadow of Which I Might Dream*

Zell International Writer in Residence:
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HISHAM MATAR

Thursday, November 3
5:10 p.m. | Helmut Stern Auditorium

Author of the Ondaatje Prize-winning novel *In the Country of Men*

Janey Lack Fiction Reading

WELLS TOWER

Thursday, November 17
5:10 p.m. | Helmut Stern Auditorium

New Yorker 20 Under 40 author of *Everything Ravaged, Everything Burned*

Poetry Reading

ANNE STEVENSON

Monday, October 31
5:10 p.m. | Rackham Amphitheatre

Winner of the Lannan Lifetime Achievement Prize

Fiction Reading

BRUCE DUFFY

Thursday, November 10
5:10 p.m. | Helmut Stern Auditorium

Author of *The World As I Found It* and *Disaster Was My God*

Day With(out) Art

JOHN WEIR

Thursday, December 1
5:10 p.m. | Helmut Stern Auditorium

Critic, journalist, and author of *The Irreversible Decline of Eddie Socket*

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BORDERS' LAST DAYS

The bookstore's passing is shrouded in confusion, sadness, and second-guessing.

BY **EVE SILBERMAN**

On July 28, ten days after the announcement that Borders was toast, CEO Mike Edwards called together the staff at the company's headquarters. A decade ago, 1,300 people worked in the fortress-like white building in an industrial park off Ellsworth Rd. Now fewer than 400 remained.

Edwards was only the latest in a series of revolving-door CEOs who'd tried to rescue a business on life support. The sight that greeted the staff as they gathered in the building's atrium—tables stocked with champagne—showed why he was also the best liked.

"I have to fire myself tomorrow," Edwards explained. "So I was thinking, 'What rule would I like to break before I fire myself?'"

The staff joined him in breaking the rule forbidding alcohol in the building. As they sipped from plastic glasses, one woman burst into song: "People—people who need people—are the luckiest people in the world."

The sentiment resonated with many. "For us," says one person who was there, "it was about the people."

I understood how they felt. I've known many Borders eople myself. When the company had just a single store on State Street, I even worked there, briefly. During Christmas rush in 1978, Tom Borders and I stood side by side at the cash registers. The worst clerk at the store (my sections were always a mess), I nonetheless was able to give the taciturn co-owner a couple of tips on how to ring things up.

Tom and his brother, Louis, had founded their namesake company just six years earlier, but it had grown so fast that by then Tom rarely was seen on the floor. Louis never had been—in that pre–bar code age, his role was tending the one-of-a-kind computer program that tracked the store's inventory, enabling the store to stock a mind-boggling 60,000 titles.

The brothers owned Borders, but it was Joe Gable, their brilliant, driven manager, who gave the store its intellectual tone. He displayed university press titles prominently and played nothing but classical music on the sound system. Back in the day, you'd never hear a Barbara Streisand tune in Borders.

Later, of course, the brothers cloned their creation, opening four more stores before selling out to Kmart for $160 million. The discounter built dozens more before spinning off "Borders Inc." as a publicly traded company. Propelled by growth-happy shareholders, the company then raced archrival Barnes & Noble to open hundreds more "superstores" across the country.

"We were the darlings of Wall Street!" recalls Jody Kohn, a company spokeswoman in the 1990s. Borders' prestige was such that Kohn was flown to Washington to talk up first lady Hillary Clinton's literacy program. Kohn also flew high on Borders stock. She was so busy she missed the moment to exercise her options at the top (the stock briefly hit $45 a share in 1999), but even so, she says, "I did quite well."

Just a year later, Borders stock was at $11—a drop that reflected both the broader stock market decline and a sudden change in the investors' guess about where the world was heading. Previously captivated by Borders' fast-growing store network, they now worried those "brick and mortar" assets would be rendered obsolete as customers moved to amazon.com.

Many say that's just what did happen. But those who loved Borders still argue fiercely about whether it was the rise of the Internet or the company's own missteps that caused it to go bust.

It's a rags-to-riches-to-rags story, a perfect case study for future U-M business students, and maybe even a book—at least one Borders employee is promising one. But first, the liquidators approved by a bankruptcy court in July have to dismantle everything the brothers and their successors built over the past forty years.

JOHN HILTOON

At "Store #1" on Liberty, a bargain-hunter brought a roll of toilet paper from the bathroom to the cash register. Told he couldn't buy it, he protested indignantly, "The sign says 'Everything on Sale'!"

In August, "Store #1" was a mess, pillaged by the hordes of shoppers drawn by garish "store closing" signs. Veteran clerk Terry McClymonds says kids' books and the 2012 calendars—reduced 40 percent—were hit especially hard as soon as the liquidation sale began.

My old store had moved around the corner to Liberty St. in the mid-1990s. Joe Gable ran it for a while, but eventually left—disgusted, according to friends, at the erosion of what an employee once called "Joe Gable's ideal academic bookstore." It wasn't just the university press books moving to the back, or the section devoted to romance novels—it was the way the books themselves increasingly played second fiddle to higher-margin items like CDs, DVDs, stationery, and wrapping paper. It seemed as if every new CEO added more items, from candy to toys, in a vain attempt to shore up a slumping bottom line.

The liquidators, though, have taken that diversification to a whole new level. After years of buying failed businesses, they've picked up all sorts of odd things—including the baby blankets, stuffed animals, and perfume that now greet customers as they walk in the front door. While some old hands cringe at the sight, others go out of their way to praise "their" liquidator. Unlike recent corporate managers, they say, the woman sent in to run the final sale has listened to the store's veteran booksellers. When longtime employee Sharon Gambin pointed out that there were unsold books in the back by Barbara Kingsolver and Michael Pollan that she knew would be popular with Ann Arbor readers, the liquidator gave them a prime spot previously occupied by a display of stuffed animals—and they quickly sold out.

Employees have been told that the downtown store will close in mid- to late September—or sooner, depending on how fast everything sells. The bookcases, display racks, even the lighting fixtures are up for grabs. One customer even tried to buy a roll of toilet paper from the bathroom and got indignant when told at the cash register he couldn't buy it. He protested, "The sign says 'Everything on Sale!'"

A couple of people approached McClymonds about purchasing bookshelves, adding, a bit sheepishly, that they were from Barnes & Noble. Two men in suits also inquired about shelves, explaining they wanted to open a Korean-language bookshop. According to a web post by Gambin, "the most requested fixtures are those we brought from the original location on State St. The old hutch that sat at the back of the store, the small side table and the UM Law Library table that served as our new hardcover table." Gambin says appraisers were brought in to value some of the more unusual items, and the most popular ones will probably be put up for bid.

Some Borders customers have already begun to migrate to Nicola's Books in Westgate. Owner Nicola Rooney says she has gotten calls asking if she carries magazines now carried by Borders and says she may adjust her inventory to, for example, include more science fiction. Rooney downplays it, but she's also able to bring in bigger-name authors for readings.

Rooney herself was briefly a Borders stockholder. In late 2008, when the stock fell to 65 cents a share, she purchased some for her retirement plan. With the bankruptcy, the stock is now worthless—but Rooney says she says sold in time to realize a small profit.

After working at Borders for most of fourteen years, Terry McClymonds, wiry and expressive, knows many customers by sight and vice versa. He's been touched that many have expressed their sadness about the closing and concern about his future.

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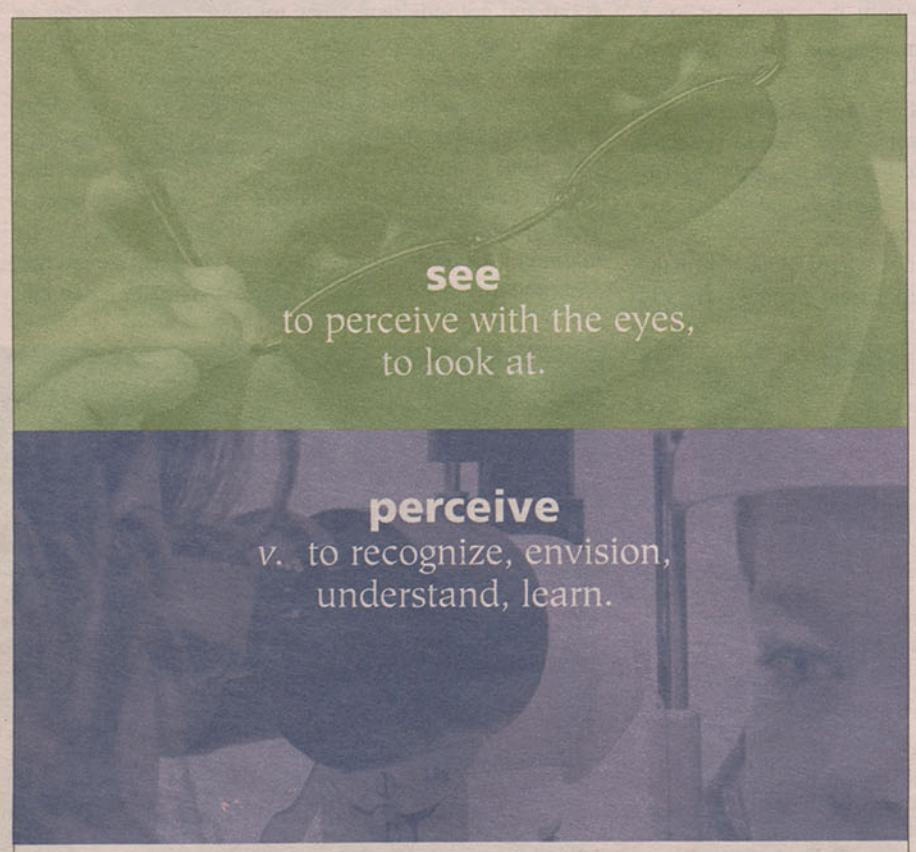

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BORDERS' LAST DAYS

McClymonds, sixty-four, is typical of a certain personality who once gravitated to Borders. A Yale grad ("the same year as George W"), he once advanced two rounds in a competition to appear on *Jeopardy!* Though he never was called for the show, when asked, he can still instantly rattle off the six bodies of water bounding Alaska.

Like many Borders employees of his generation, McClymonds decided early on that a stimulating work environment mattered more to him than a big salary. When he started, job applicants still had to take a test to demonstrate knowledge of literature, and he loved discussing books and classical music with customers, many of whom were U-M profs—he remembers talking with former U-M president Lee Bollinger and his wife, Jean, both regulars.

McClymonds also works as a bartender at the Aut Bar. When Borders closes, he expects to work more hours there and get health-care coverage under the bar's plan. (While employees can continue their existing coverage under COBRA, Borders—and its health-care contributions—will disappear at the end of 2011.)

After years of attrition, the staff at Store #1 is down to about thirty people. All but four are part time, and McClymonds believes that most have other sources of income (second jobs or spouses) to cushion the loss. The higher-paid employees at "corporate," some of whom are supporting families, have more to lose.

Borders has sponsored a couple of job fairs, with Domino's Pizza and ProQuest among the companies recruiting. A website, BordersSeparationResources.com, posts contact information from another 100 companies that have expressed interest in hiring Borders employees, ranging from Busch's supermarkets and Advance Auto Parts to Barnes & Noble.

In an ironic testimonial to the ubiquity of electronic media, thousands of Borders employees around the country, past and present, are joining the Facebook group "Borders Class of 2011 and Before." They're thanking coworkers and managers and reminiscing about everything from Harry Potter store parties to the travails of liquidation, as well as trading funny questions from customers ("I want 'How to Kill a Mockingbird'").

The tone is angrier at iworkatborders.livejournal.com, an older site perused for years by business reporters (and, reportedly, management) for clues about why Borders was unraveling. A poster there, using the name "bordersscrewedme," protested about not having received a final paycheck. Another, "dcdummy," wrote of working overtime in a heat wave to empty a distribution center. In a touch of macabre humor, "finalbordersfun" suggested a "death pool," where workers in each store could bet on which day would be their last on the job.

Was it bad luck, or bad leadership?

That's the question Borders survivors and alumni alike are asking: was the chain a victim of forces beyond its control—the rise of the Internet, the fall of the economy, the deadly attraction of e-books? Or was the greater problem the series of well-compensated but shortsighted executives who overextended the company financially, even while losing sight of what its customers wanted?

Exhibit A for the second group is the fact that Barnes & Noble is still standing. But B&N is also exhibit A for the first group: it, too, is losing money, and the main thing keeping its stock price up is investors' enthusiasm for the Nook—its e-book reader.

> *"I think they started down a path they couldn't get off," says former exec Margaret Noori. "Once they grew to a particular size and went public, it was very hard to turn back."*

Former Borders exec Margaret Noori—who previously worked at B&N—blames the forces that drive all publicly traded companies. "I think they started down a path they couldn't get off," says Noori, now a U-M lecturer in Native American studies. "Once they grew to a particular size and once they became public, it was very hard to turn back."

Longtime Borders book buyer Carla Bayha, after rattling off a dirty dozen mistakes the company made, was dumbfounded when I asked, "When was the last time Borders did anything right?" The next day she emailed that in recent years Borders had tried to correct some of its errors, but by then it was too late.

Bayha's dirty dozen includes: Borders' early decision to use Amazon as its online order system, losing contact with its customers and undercutting the value of its brand; signing long store leases during the boom years, never imagining the good times would end; expanding into unwelcoming international markets (Singapore residents apparently liked their Borders; Londoners did not); being slow to upgrade ordering and inventory systems; and not giving store managers the freedom to tailor their inventories to their markets.

Former spokeswoman Jody Kohn and others also believe that being headquartered in Ann Arbor worked against the company, given that publishing is New

York-driven. She recalls that at a National Book Awards ceremony one year, Barnes & Noble "had five tables. I was the only one [from Borders]." Without a permanent New York presence, some believe, publishers turned first to Barnes & Noble for author signings and special promotions.

Michael Chaim worked for Borders for twenty-four years. "When I dropped out of grad school in Ann Arbor in 1987, there was only one place in town that I wanted to work—the Borders on State Street, which was the best bookstore I'd ever seen," he recalls. He went on to run the company's Madison store—which, he says proudly, always turned a profit.

After his store closed this past spring, Chaim wrote an analysis of what went wrong. Topping his list: "Don't Disdain Your Core Business" and "Don't Disdain Your Employees." Each new CEO, he writes, "came into the book business convinced … that the people in the book business didn't know what the heck they were doing. They all prided themselves on being 'retailers' who were going to convince those long-haired book lovers inside the company just how to sell product." From the book-lovers' perspective, their leaders "never got that retail bookselling is a one-transaction, one-sale-at-a-time business, with your best chance at a sale being a true, genuine discussion with a customer about meeting their needs."

The Borders brothers and Joe Gable, of course, understood that from the start. Some now imagine wistfully that had Borders remained in one store, the crown jewel of Ann Arbor, its depth of titles and literate clerks might have allowed it to survive and flourish even in the face of the Internet and e-books.

In an Observer story last spring, poet Keith Taylor argued eloquently that Borders' downfall began the moment it decided to open a second store. But Chaim dismisses the dream that the company could have stayed as it was, forever Joe Gable's ideal academic bookstore on State.

"The horse left the barn long ago," Chaim says of the decision to expand. "That's what the Borders brothers wanted to see happen."

In an e-mail soon afer the liquidation was annouced, buyer Carla Bayha, referring to the famous "stages of grief," wrote, "Employees have been at all stages from anger to acceptance, but not many were left at denial.

Asked what she'd miss, Bayha replied, "I will miss being proud of something that was once great, that I helped to build, and that gave full-time, meaningful employment to intelligent adults. Borders changed the culture of this country, and made us a more open and informed society."

She signed her message:

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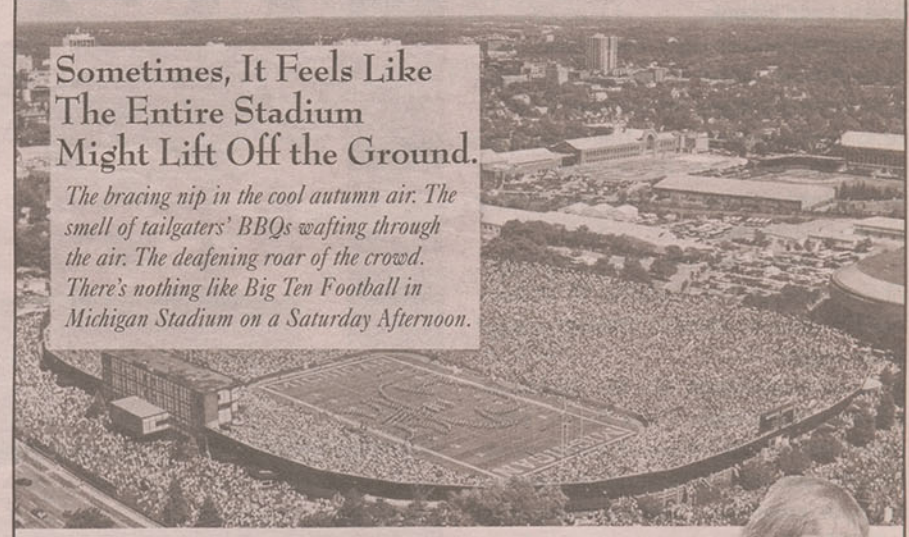

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Hoke's Luck

ICON SPORTS MEDIA / CORBIS

New head coach Brady Hoke at the U-M's spring game

With RichRod and Jim Tressel gone, the sun shines on the U-M's new coach.

by James Militzer

Brady Hoke wasn't the first coach on most U-M football fans' wish lists. But just seven months into his tenure, many have embraced him with an enthusiasm that verges on giddiness. "I've put up a tag on this blog that says 'Brady Hoke poops magic,' says Brian Cook, founder of the popular U-M sports blog Mgoblog.com. "Hoke is just walking around with a horseshoe, while Rich Rodriguez could've been a character in a Shakespeare play. He was done wrong by the universe."

Fate surely has smiled on Hoke. Though the coach has earned acclaim for hiring a strong staff and recruiting several top players, it was pure luck that he took the reins at Michigan just four months before Ohio State lost coach Jim Tressel and quarterback Terrell Pryor to a series of NCAA violations. Upcoming player suspensions and other possible NCAA sanctions could weaken the U-M's nemesis for years to come, driving top recruits into Michigan's welcoming arms. But was fortune also a factor in Rodriguez's downfall?

Dave Nightingale, editor of the U-M fan blog Mgobrew.com, thinks so. "I don't know if it was an unlucky star, or if Rodriguez walked under a ladder, smashed a mirror, then kicked a black cat. But the stream of bad publicity—it was just one thing after the next. There was never good news. Then you lop on the demolitions that the team received at the hands of Ohio State and Wisconsin, and it was just a nightmare in terms of media relations."

Rodriguez certainly had a gift for bad PR. His tenure at Michigan started with controversy (a bitter lawsuit with West Virginia University, his former employer), and ended with humiliation (a December 2010 banquet in which he teared up and seemed to plead for his job). Along the way, he struggled with player defections, criticism from former players, and NCAA penalties for major rules violations—all while compiling a 15–22 record, including zero wins against archrivals Ohio State and Michigan State.

Detroit Free Press sports reporter Michael Rosenberg argues that Rodriguez's PR problems just served to exacerbate his failures on the field. "Ultimately, [Rodriguez's failure] wasn't about people just deciding they didn't like Rich Rodriguez. I mean, he just didn't do a very good job. Rich came in and wanted to create his own sort of culture, to establish something different—the same thing he did at West Virginia when he first got there. So I think he came in overconfident, and it backfired with the group of players he inherited. I think he violated some rules. I think he hired a poor coaching staff, and his staff did not have the connections within Michigan's traditional recruiting base that it needed to have. And though his teams' offensive talent and execution were very good, I think he had very poor special teams and a lousy defense.

Speaking at a business networking meeting over the summer, Hoke wore his Michigan heart on his sleeve and left to a rousing ovation. Try as he might, Rodriguez could never make that connection.

"Rich is a very bright offensive mind, but he was not hired to be offensive coordinator, he was hired to be head coach," Rosenberg continues. "And that means hiring a great staff, it means organizing the recruiting, it means building a team that has great spirit and morale and resolve and resilience. And in those areas it didn't come together for them—which is why, when adversity struck, the team did not respond well. And if you want to fault him or the people who hired him, I think you can probably do both."

Michigan's athletic department declined to comment for this article, but many U-M observers see Hoke's hiring and initial performance as a reaction to Rodriguez's deficiencies—both personal and professional. Hoke is jovial and media-friendly, while Rodriguez often came off as brooding and uncomfortable with reporters. And where Rodriguez sought out fast, undersized players who could run his spread offense, Hoke's 2012 recruiting class is dominated by large defensive players. Many observers take that as a sign that the team is returning to its roots. "You have to win football games, in the Big Ten or any power conference, by playing sound defense," says Nightingale. "I think that's the thing that really torpedoed Michigan's seasons over the last three years. If you look at the losses Michigan had, I think we were first in the conference in points scored, and dead last in points allowed. So Hoke's focus on defense will bring Michigan back to the place that it really needs to be."

Hoke also has an innate advantage over Rodriguez that could matter more than their different approaches to the game. Unlike Rodriguez, Hoke is a "Michigan man," having spent eight years as an assistant coach under Lloyd Carr. Speaking at a business networking meeting at Washtenaw United Way over the summer, the new coach wore his Michigan heritage on his sleeve, sharing fond anecdotes and quizzing the audience on U-M football trivia. He left to a rousing ovation. Try as he might, Rodriguez could never make that connection. At the uncomfortable 2010 banquet speech, Rodriguez seemed poignantly aware of his status as a perpetual outsider. "I hope you realize that I truly want to be a Michigan man," he said. A few weeks later, he was fired.

"Hoke is going back to what we all know and love in a lot of respects, with tradition," says Nightingale. "So there aren't those questions about, 'Will he adapt? Does he understand? How is he changing things?' Instead, it's questions about the football team itself and its performance—not questions about the coach.

"Michigan fans and media have the sense of 'Yeah, he gets it.' Because at heart, despite being the coach, Hoke's a Michigan fan. He's on record saying he wouldn't wear gray and red because those are Ohio State's colors—and this is when he was coaching at San Diego State! So I think he understands the university's heritage and rivalries, and just the little things that make Michigan's football program what it is. Those things mean a lot to any fan—you have to understand the importance of tradition."

You also have to win. That remains to be seen (see story below). But whether it's due to Hoke's personality, his performance, or just the fact that he's not Rodriguez, fans clearly have high hopes for the program.

"Whenever you hire a new coach, everybody is gaga about him until he punts on third and four from inside the forty-yard line, so we're definitely in the honeymoon phase," says Cook. "But Michigan seems to be refinding its footing under Hoke. If they take advantage of Ohio State's impending massive NCAA sanctions, they can get to the level where they are a true powerhouse."

Nightingale agrees. "I took an informal poll of my readers and the Michigan alumni I know, and an overwhelming majority are very happy with who is running our program. And the rest of them will be happy in the long run—so long as Hoke is successful."

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SQUARE PEGS

Will Hoke's luck hold? by Craig Ross

In my fifty years of serious U-M football watching, this pre-season was the most difficult for me to parse. Will the 2011 Wolverines be any good? Will they be awful? The strands of information are a tangle of competing uncertainties.

After the spring game, I posted a note on Brian Cook's *MGoBlog*, suggesting that the Wolverines' beleaguered 2010 defense, perhaps the worst in Michigan history, might be "average" or even "above average" in 2011.

My thinking wasn't particularly complicated. In the 2010 spring game, Denard Robinson and the U-M offense gashed the defense for massive gains. This past spring, the defense made more plays than I would have preferred. Since last year's offense ranked eighth in the country in yards gained, I thought, "Well maybe this defense can do all right, after all."

Bearing good news, I was a hero to Cook's readers—until the next day, when I posed a question about the Michigan offense: If U-M's worst-in-the-history-of-the-universe defense can stop U-M's offense, I asked, then how in the world can the Michigan offense beat up on, say, a tomato can? It was as if I'd announced I was the Antichrist. My friends pronounced me "clueless." My enemies were less restrained.

I'm all for Hoke-a-Mania and the attendant level of fan optimism and enthusiasm. And I had to admit that at least some of the objections made sense. The arguments were that (a) defenses are generally ahead of offenses in the spring (true); (b) the new Michigan offensive coordinator, Al Borges, was installing a new system (true); (c) the offensive line, thin to begin with, was missing its two likely stars, left tackle Taylor Lewan and center Dave Molk (also true); (d) Borges was protecting Denard for most of the spring, hamstringing his performance (maybe); and (e) for chrissakes there had only been fifteen practices with this offense (true).

I added two objections of my own. First, with Borges's new system still a work in progress, the spring offense was a lot less than the sum of its parts. Second, the defense, with nearly all of its relevant parts intact, just *had* to get better. This was particularly true since Greg Matison, the new defensive coordinator, is one of the

most highly regarded DCs in the country.

If these objections are valid, nothing in the spring really meant all that much. But if they're valid, then *no one* knows how the team will fare this fall. A commentator on the Dan Patrick show called the Michigan fan base "delusional" for, as he saw it, grasping at faith over reason. He said that Michigan was "unlikely" to improve from its 2010 outcome, that seven wins would be "about as good as it gets for the Wolverines."

Even I am not quite that pessimistic. But I am worried that the Michigan coaches may have to put square pegs into round holes.

Al Borges has been a successful offense coach in a variety of systems. He points out that he has run classical pro-style systems and West Coast systems, QB under center or in the shotgun, that he has a record of creating an offense that fits his talent. Yes, it is true that Brady Hoke wants to run power football. Coach Hoke is a believer that you win games by beating up the other guy. (I would say most football coaches, including Bo, Mo, and Lloyd, were in the same camp.) But Hoke and Borges understand what they have, and putting Denard Robinson into the classical QB role (Brady, Grbac, Henne, et al) is not a plan. So Borges has the daunting task of finding a balance spot for Denard—an offense that maximizes his skills but (as opposed to last year) protects him from being beaten to a pulp.

Borges and his staff obsessed over the 2010 film, trying to see what they could salvage. Zone blocking? Yeah, he could make a very simple transition into his version of the zone. Shotgun? Sure—Borges has hinted that he might be in the gun at least half the time. But the 2011 Wolverines won't be passing into defenses selling out to limit Denard's rushing alternatives. Wildcat plays? Yep. QB draws? Yep. But Denard will be expected to learn a different set of reads and pass more out of the pocket—or at least out of a moving pocket.

Can this work? I just don't know. Borges wants Denard to learn to freelance out of pass options, but that was one of the few areas where he struggled last year. I want to share the faith, but I admit to some slavishness to reason. The offense has the most exciting player in the country. It has proven competence at receiver and a tight end (Kevin Koger) who should thrive in a Borges offense. The offensive line returns four starters, and there are young linemen ready to break out. There isn't a star at running back, but there is plenty of healthy competition. It is a given that Hoke and Borges want to see an offense where the running backs gain most of the running yards and take most of the punishment. If the offensive line remains healthy, if Denard and backup Devin Gardner are healthy, the parts are there for *some* offense to thrive. Michigan loses, after all, only one starter.

But am I optimistic that Michigan can be a successful power team in 2011? No. If Borges can do that, he is Houdini. The dude is a smart and impressive guy. Not sure about magic. But damn, I want to be wrong.

Unlike his counterpart, Greg Matison didn't pay any significant attention to last year's film. First, he knew what defense he would play—the 4–3 under that worked for him with the Baltimore Ravens in the NFL. Second, in setting up his defense, he didn't want the film to bias his valuation of the talent he had. Yeah, we sucked last year. It's a new day.

The good news for Matison is that he also loses almost no one. Linebacker Jonas Mouton went in the second round of the NFL draft, but otherwise his defense is intact. Last year, Michigan had freshmen starters (safety Carvin Johnson, LB Cam Gordon) and a handful of other frosh playing key roles. These players will return as more battle-tested than usual sophs. All Big Ten nose tackle Mike Martin is back. So are Craig Roh and Ryan Van Bergen, two-year starters on the defensive line. Kenny Demens, getting his first opportunity to play, showed that he might belong at middle linebacker. LB Jake Ryan and safety Marvin Robinson, both redshirted last year, proved in the spring that they have the ability to play in the Big Ten. Plus, Michigan returns its best DB from 2009, Troy Woolfolk, who was out last year. J. T. Floyd may be pushed at corner by frosh Greg Bell and soph Courtney Avery. Assuming that Mouton's spot can be filled, and that (high school All World) Will Campbell or Quinton Washington can play the new defensive tackle (three technique) position—well, maybe Matison can turn some water into wine.

So, how will Michigan do? I didn't have much confidence in anything I might predict, so I checked out Bill Connelly at the blog network *SB Nation*. Connelly is a Missouri fan, and he has no dog in the Big Ten fight. He says, essentially, "Hmmmm," (a) most starters back, (b) high five-year recruiting ratings, (c) high predictive metrics like Yards per Points; "soooo" by the time *SB Nation* releases its predictions, "there is a decent chance Michigan will be at or near the top of the Legends Division." Hosannah.

But then Connelly rethinks the matter and surmises that Denard may be completely unsuited to *any* offense Al Borges can devise, and that Matison may realize that no amount of coaching can turn this group into competence. He concludes, "Count Michigan as a Big Ten sleeper, though you can feel free to ignore this if they go 5–7."

My Ouija board says 8–5, including a bowl win over some meatball team. Hoke needs to gather some momentum this year, because the 2012 schedule is daunting: opening against 'Bama in Dallas and later playing at Notre Dame, at Ohio State, at Nebraska, and then at home against Air Force, MSU, and Iowa (plus two teams to be determined—hard to believe at this point).

The coach has assembled a very strong staff. These guys know what they are doing. But can they do it soon enough for a fan base that may be losing patience? For the next couple of seasons, at least, we'll need a strong dose of Hoke-a-Mania to embrace outcomes that may not be much different from the past. ■

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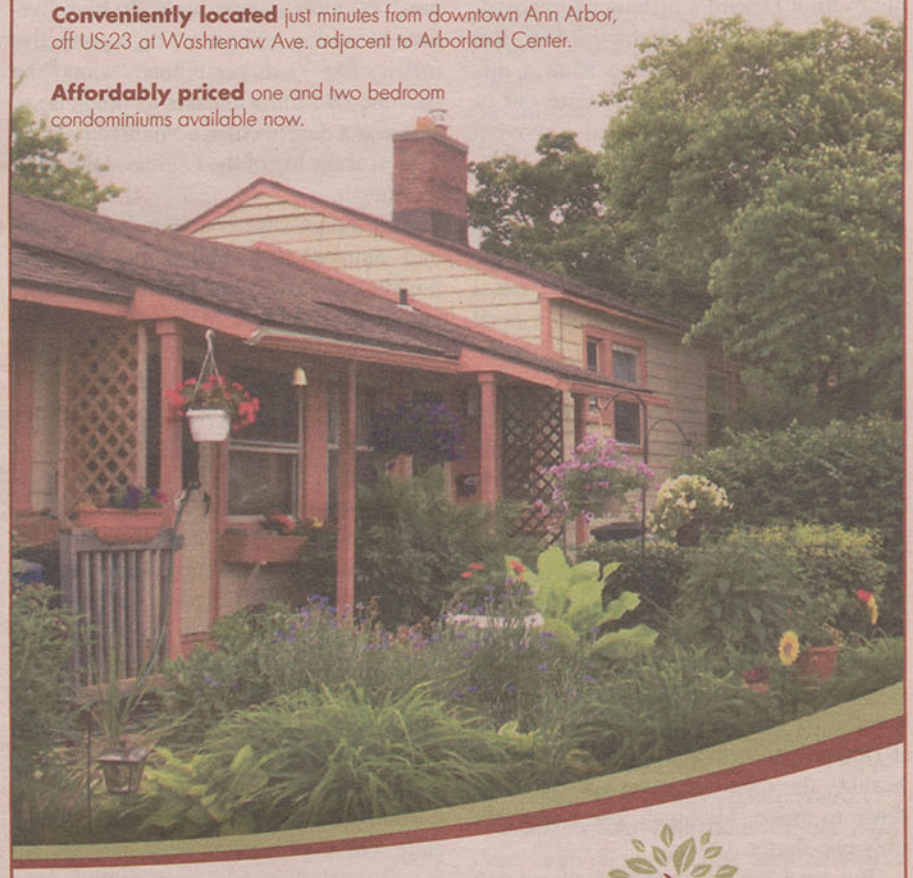

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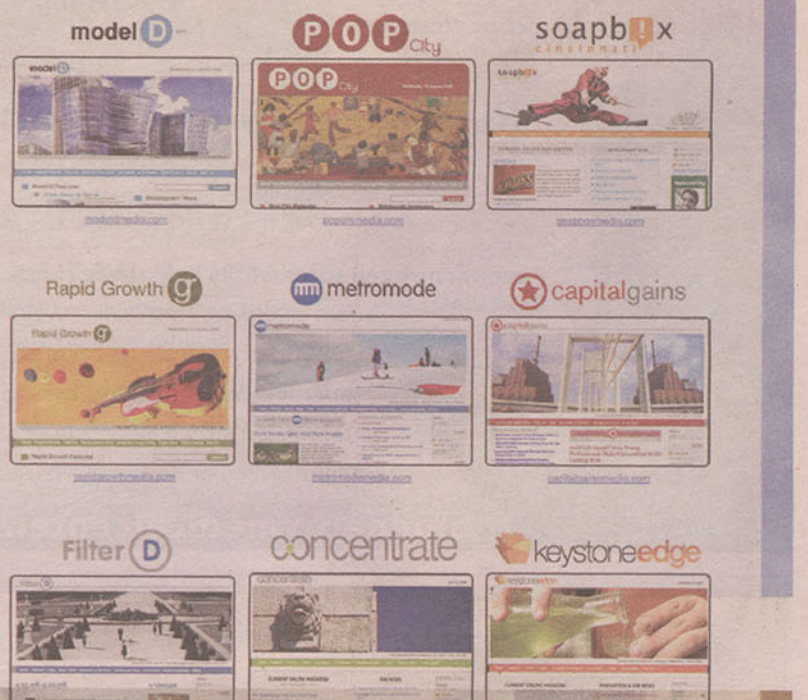
Happy Talk

While the old media keep losing money online, Paul Schutt has found the secret of success. His websites publish only good news—and bill the state millions for "economic development."

by Michael Betzold



MICHIGAN MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

Schutt celebrates entrepreneurship, but built his company with government subsidies. Since 2006, Issue Media Group has billed the MEDC and MSHDA more than $3 million.

If the economy is bad, publish only positive business news, and funders will line up to bask in the glow. That's the profitable formula of Ann Arbor's Paul Schutt, who has built a small empire, including the local website *Concentrate,* by giving his backers nothing but pleasing news.

Issue Media Group's online "magazines" cover most of Michigan's big cities, but few residents would recognize the state they portray: in IMG's world, every entrepreneur is a hero, and every business is a success.

Corporate and nonprofit "stakeholders," including banks, hospitals, and office parks, pay IMG up to $12,000 a year to sponsor its publications. In return, the company posts their logos and ads to its virtual pages—and invites them to suggest articles for its writers to pursue.

Schutt—pronounced "shut"—says that his publications keep "a very bright line between [advertising] and editorial … [sponsors] do not get to tell us what to say." Sponsors needn't worry, though—even if an IMG writer happens to learn something unfavorable about them, it won't be published.

While that editorial model won't win any journalism prizes, IMG appears to be a business success. Schutt's rise, in fact, could be the subject of one of his own articles: young entrepreneur makes early mistakes, becomes a successful web contractor, then graduates to "place making," creating publications that transform the image of tarnished towns, turning them into hip places where young "millennials" will want to live, work, and consume.

Of course, an IMG writer might have to leave out some of the most interesting details. Like a lot of savvy entrepreneurs, Schutt plays with other people's money—but it doesn't come from the entrepreneurs and small businesses that IMG celebrates. For all the company's focus on the "new economy," its business model depends heavily on the old economy—in the form of government subsidies. In the past five years, state-funded groups have paid IMG more than $3 million.

Schutt grew up in Saginaw—one of the distressed cities he now is recasting as a great place for start-up businesses. He calls this "creating an alternative narrative," and says it's needed to balance the "old media" focus on Michigan's industrial decline.

He earned a degree from Ferris State in business administration in 1993 and a few years later followed his wife, Megan, a social worker, to Ann Arbor. They live here with their son, Oliver. Well connected both locally and in Lansing, Schutt serves on the board of the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation.

Schutt has been involved in online marketing and web development since 1994. He says in his twenties he "made the same mistakes" as other early web entrepreneurs, renting unnecessary office space and suffering high overhead costs.

He's solved that problem with Issue Media Group. Though it has a presence in seventeen cities, most of them in Michigan, IMG has a full-time staff of just ten people, mostly techies, working out of a small office in Royal Oak. The thousands of articles that fill its many virtual publications are provided by editors and writers working from home on a contract or freelance basis. "It's a new economy gig," explains Schutt. "It's one of two or three gigs they do, not a J-O-B." For instance, *Concentrate*'s managing editor, Jeff Meyers, also runs IMG's Metromode publication for southeast Michigan—and reviews movies for the Detroit *Metro Times.*

All that is routine in digital publishing, but Schutt's business plan is especially savvy. IMG websites are virtually risk free: they're subsidized in advance.

Before IMG enters a city, Schutt and his partner, Brian Boyle, go to economic development forums to find "stakeholders" to sponsor it. We say, "Support us because it's going to help your business," Schutt told Bud Gibson, president of Michigan Innovators, in a series of interviews posted on that group's website in 2008. IMG, he told Gibson, helps sponsors "understand how to leverage us" and emphasizes that "it's going to be a great partnership."

Schutt says he looks for fifteen to twenty local stakeholders, each willing to ante up $12,000 a year (less in smaller cities, he tells the Observer). Some are businesses—in August, *Concentrate* carried the logos of Domino's Farms office park and Grand Rapids–based Pioneer Construction. But depending on the city, Schutt says, IMG gets about half its support from nonprofits. In August, *Concentrate* also carried the logos of a campus volunteer network, Lake Trust credit union, ArtServe Michigan, and the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA).

Paradoxically, though IMG websites celebrate new, small businesses, few of them have the money for a sponsorship—and Schutt says it's not worth his staff's time to sell the small ads they could afford. And though it gets much of its support from nonprofits, Schutt emphasizes that IMG is "very much" a for-profit enterprise.

Schutt has a keen grasp of the bang sponsors expect for their bucks. "Advertisers want sites with high traffic that focus on topics that are relevant to their business," he told Gibson—and upbeat features that can be reused in their own promotions. "If I wrote a story about your company dropping 50 percent in sales, you're probably not going to put that on your website," he explained. "But if I wrote about your company adding ten jobs [you will]."

Schutt added that because the "old media" cover setbacks to the local economy like Pfizer's departure from Ann Arbor, "new media" like IMG don't need to. Still, he acknowledged that it can be tough getting journalists to buy into his model.

"Journalists have been trained since J school to be the community watchdog," Schutt told Gibson. "Even if the story is a good story, there's always going to be a zinger at the end that's trying to balance it. Now we [at IMG] want to know what the growth is; we don't want to know what the growth *and* what the potential downside of this growth is."

Schutt says IMG's sponsors are "able to pitch us stories, they're able to suggest people we should talk to [but] there's no such thing as a quid pro quo here, where they support us so therefore we write about them …" The company's backers, though, may not all see it that way.

"Their model focuses on generally upbeat articles, and the understanding from sponsors seems to be that they'll get covered in a positive way," emails Mary Morgan, publisher of the online *Ann Arbor Chronicle*. "It's tough, because it creates that expectation for other media—and at least here at the Chronicle, we don't sell coverage."

Keeping everything looking rosy isn't easy. Letters to the editor can be a forum for dissent, but not at IMG—its sites don't publish them. Nor do the publications have any

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Happy Talk

COURTESY ANN ARBOR CHRONICLE

IMG runs seventeen online "magazines" with a full-time staff of just ten people. *Concentrate* editor Jeff Meyers is not among them—all writers and editors work on contract, or as freelancers.

formal system to note corrections. Until a few months ago, in fact, readers couldn't even comment on articles.

In an August phone interview, Schutt insisted that IMG's stories aren't always "positive." Instead, he clarified, "we don't cover losses." He pointed to a *Concentrate* story about obstacles to building denser housing in Ann Arbor as an example of an article that discusses both positives and negatives.

As it happens, denser housing in Ann Arbor is a cause promoted by IMG's most important patron, MSHDA. Schutt's been tapping Lansing for money for more than a decade, and with the state experiencing its worst economy since the Great Depression, his just-good-news formula has never been more welcome.

Documents obtained by the Observer through the Freedom of Information Act show that Schutt's former company, The Collective, had contracts with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation as far back as 2001. Quasi-independent but supported by state and federal funds, the MEDC paid The Collective $484,665 in 2001 and 2002, primarily for building websites and doing tech work. As late as 2004, the year Schutt sold The Collective, it received $86,000 for website maintenance and $19,500 for a "Cool Cities workshop."

Schutt founded IMG in 2005 and by 2006 had websites running in Detroit and Grand Rapids. That fall, MEDC gave the company a $394,000, no-bid contract to "create occupational cluster and lifestyle microsites as well as regional economic development partnerships to increase in-state and out-of-state awareness regarding Michigan opportunities of C-level executives, business owners, investors, thought leaders and talent to create interest and demand for Michigan." IMG used the money to expand across the state.

COURTESY ANN ARBOR CHRONICLE

In the next few years, MEDC agreed to pay IMG an additional $980,000. The money was used to continue IMG's website expansion; to "collaborate with MEDC local partners" (such as Ann Arbor's SPARK); and to support Travel Michigan (an MEDC promotion) with a cultural website called Filter D.

But how do stories about small businesses and cultural attractions help a state slammed by massive job loss, disinvestment, poverty, and recession? "These are the things that remake communities—new cafes or infill housing—not big employers," Schutt contends. By creating more buzz, he says, his websites improve the business and cultural climate in the towns they cover.

> "These are the things that remake communities—new cafes or infill housing—not big employers," Schutt contends. By creating more buzz, he says, his websites improve the business and cultural climate.

Asked for evidence to prove his assertion, Schutt points to a Gallup study of twenty-six cities, which found that the highest GDP growth came in cities whose residents had the most love and passion for their community. Coverage that makes people love their communities, he argues, should also make them more prosperous. Of course, the study doesn't say which came first and meant most: the love, the coverage, or the prosperity?

All told, MEDC funded IMG to the tune of $1.4 million between October 2006 and October 2009. It's not clear why the relationship ended. Schutt denies there was any falling out, but by the time the last MEDC contract ended IMG was already getting funds from MSHDA. The authority, whose mission is to promote affordable housing and community redevelopment in Michigan, has since paid Schutt's company more than $2 million.

The IMG-MSHDA connection is cemented by the relationship between Schutt and MSHDA official Gary Heidel, who last year became the authority's executive director. In August 2010, MHSDA official Joe Borgstrom, a sometime critic of the agency's payments to IMG, asked to see the contract between the authority and the company. MSHDA communications director Mary Lou Kennon replied: "There is no contract that I know of. It's an investment/sponsorship as I understand it from Gary [Heidel]."

In response to a question from the Observer, Kennon says the money was neither an investment nor a sponsorship. "MSHDA characterizes the email exchange as a miscommunication, not a disagreement," she says, "The correct terminology is 'media buy.'"

A "media buy" traditionally means a contract for advertisements, which in MSHDA's case could mean the logos and ads appearing on IMG sites next to stories compatible with the agency's interests. But Schutt and MSHDA explain that in IMG's case, the "media buy" also includes "value added" features.

From the FOIA documents, it appears that IMG used MSHDA's cash to support its websites in Detroit, Lansing, Grand Rapids, and Ann Arbor and to expand elsewhere in Michigan. It also started a partnership with public radio's Michigan Now series (another MSHDA beneficiary), promising 200 stories a year to "reinforce New Economy messaging" for use on public radio stations.

At the end of 2009, IMG proposed a "marriage of philosophies"—a full IMG/MSHDA partnership, at a price of $75,000 a year—to promote "place making" through editorial content and partnerships with local media and businesses. After a review concluded that "the deliverables are too vague," the project was scaled back to a $35,000 six-month pilot project.

But that was just a small part of the cash flowing to IMG from the state authority. Invoices show that IMG billed MHSDA $730,250 between November 2009 and August 2010. In an email, Schutt told Heidel that IMG had delivered "over 7,000 stories/pieces of content" in 2008, 10,000 in 2009, and 12,000 in 2010.

Schutt says that IMG never promised MSHDA any specific content, including any set number of articles. Kennon agrees, saying the authority "did not require IMG to deliver a specific quantitative number of articles and/or advertising placements in its publications per month. However, MSHDA met monthly with IMG to conduct a qualitative review that ensured MSHDA's objectives were achieved." In a follow-up email, Kennon explains that the meetings were "to discuss outcomes of content just published and also discuss possible future story ideas related to housing and development issues."

In August 2010, MSHDA art director Amanda Tuckey complained to a colleague about IMG: "They keep changing their terms [on the number of stories]. I doubt they even understand the extent of our contract … Clearly they tell us one thing and do another." (Tuckey won't comment, referring all questions to Kennon.)

Kennon volunteers that at the end of last year "concerns were raised" within MSHDA about IMG's performance, but says, "we have since resolved those concerns." At this point, the future of the MSHDA/IMG connection looks bright. Last year, IMG invoiced MSHDA $75,000 for a Pure Michigan Living "Statewide Talent Program" and billed the agency $2,500 apiece for organizing talks in Ann Arbor on such topics as public art and "urban incubators."

The affordable-housing agency appears committed to ongoing support of Paul Schutt's media empire. According to Kennon, a "new proposal is currently being reviewed because MSHDA does … believe IMG is … filling an important niche that the traditional news media has not filled … Specifically, MSHDA believes IMG provides young readers with compelling information in a format that they prefer."

Schutt himself puts it more succinctly: "Michigan's been very kind to us." ■

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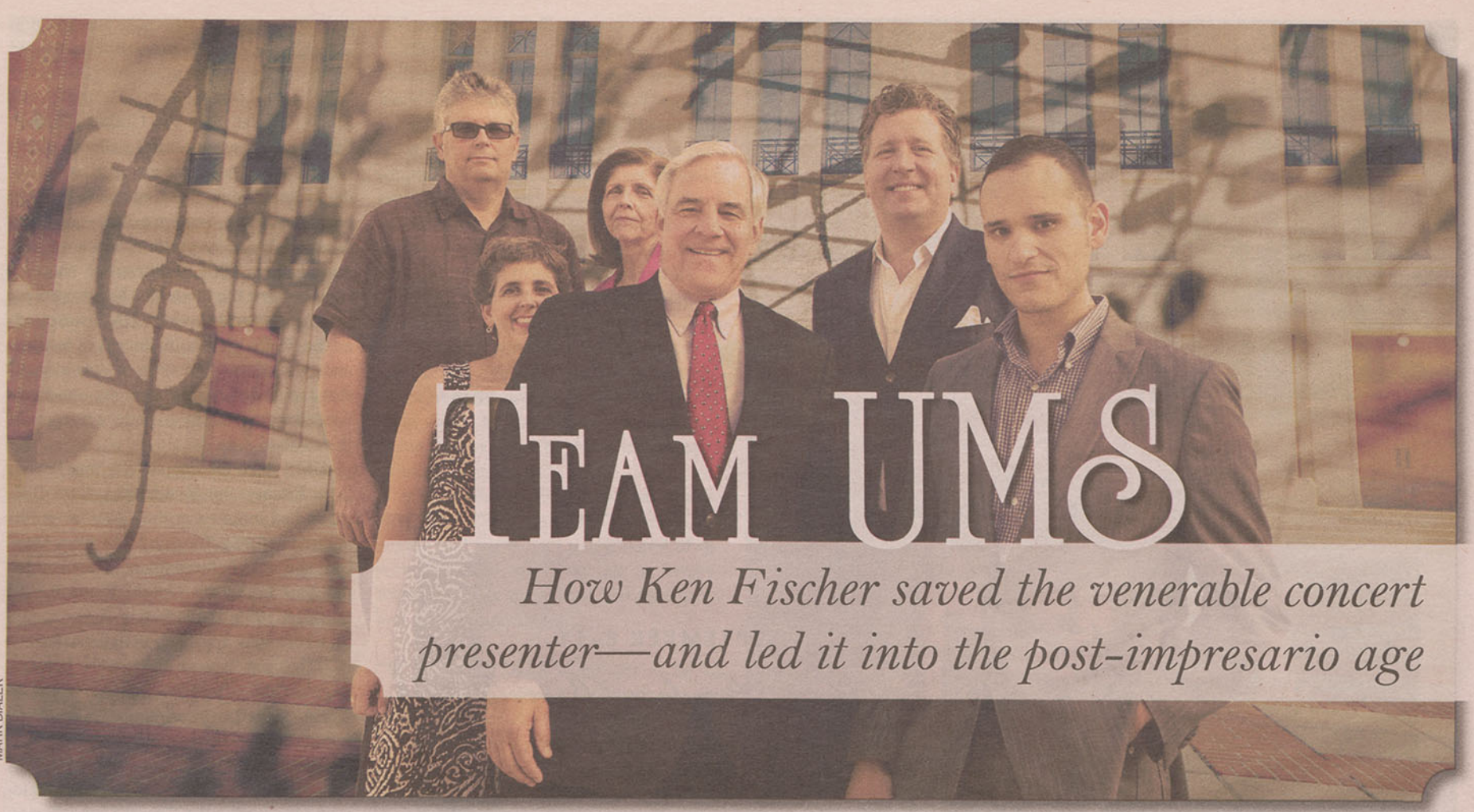


MARK BIALEK

Team UMS

How Ken Fischer saved the venerable concert presenter—and led it into the post-impresario age

University Musical Society president Ken Fischer (center) surrounded by his staff: (l. to r.) John Kennard, Sara Billmann, Susan McClanahan, Ken Fischer, Michael Kondziolka, and Jim Leija.

by James Leonard

Twenty-five years ago, the University Musical Society was drowning in debt.

Since its founding in 1879, the group had presented classical music in Ann Arbor under only four leaders: Henry Simmons Frieze through 1889, Francis Kelsey through 1927, Charles Sink through 1957, and Gail Rector from 1957. Tradition ran deep: Sink had trained under Kelsey, and Rector had trained under Sink.

Like his predecessors as president, Rector led the UMS as if it were his own private kingdom: setting budgets, signing contracts, coddling artists, seducing donors, and hiring and firing staff. As an autonomous nonprofit, the UMS received no support from the U-M and was thus entirely responsible for its own finances. So long as ticket sales covered expenses, the president was king.

Then, in 1984, philanthropist Gene Power enlisted Rector to help launch the Ann Arbor Summer Festival. The UMS put on a full roster of classical music and dance concerts—and lost so much money that in just two years, it piled up a $400,000 deficit. Only a huge loan from the university kept the UMS in business.

The Summer Festival regrouped and found its niche presenting popular music and hosting the free Top of the Park festival. But the UMS had deeper problems. Its flagship Choral Union concert series featured a mix of expensive international stars and inexpensive Eastern European orchestras, but few new artists and little new music. Its aging audience continued to buy tickets, but younger listeners weren't coming up to replace them.

Another problem was the May Festival. Dating back to 1894, the annual concert series brought big-city orchestras to campus for as many as four days of back-to-back concerts. It had once been the UMS's biggest attraction—but it had fallen out of step with the academic calendar in the 1960s, when the university moved its graduation from June to April. By the 1980s it was losing money.

If those difficulties weren't enough, the group's accounting was literally stuck in the past: monthly financial reports were ten months behind. Financial manager John Kennard says that when he arrived in 1989, "the outside auditors expressed doubt that the business could even continue!"

By then, though, UMS was already beginning to adapt. When Rector retired in 1986, the UMS board knew it was either change or die. They went in search of Gail Rector's successor—and found Ken Fischer.

The son of a Ford executive, Fischer grew up in Plymouth. He was a long shot for the UMS job—and he knew it. "I was very lucky to get this job," he says in his gruff-but-warm baritone. "I'd not been in a performing arts organization before, though I'd done some shows in Washington, D.C., where we were living. But music was in my bones. I was a horn player and singer, two of my siblings are professional musicians, and I'm married to a professional musician. Plus we had ties to the UMS. Penny, my wife, was Gail's secretary, and I'd been an intern when I was here as an undergraduate."

When he started in June 1987, Fischer knew the job would be tough. "The UMS had to right itself financially, and to do that, we had to increase audience and revenue. There are several ways to get to fiscal responsibility. One is to be *prudent* with your resources and cut whatever you can. Another is to go out and raise money with a *vision*," he says—as usual, with plenty of emphasis.

"I'm best at promotion and persuasion, at connecting people with their dreams," continues the silver-haired sixty-six-year-old. One of his first meetings was with a local bank president. "I asked what really mattered to him," Fischer recalls, "and he said supporting the community, the Ann Arbor Symphony, and the School of Music.

"So I said, 'How'd you like to sponsor our annual Messiah? It's the oldest thing we do, and the chorus is the community, the Ann Arbor Symphony is the orchestra, and the soloists come from the School of Music. And a sponsorship check remains with us a very short time. We write a check to the symphony, and they write checks to the musicians, and they deposit those checks in *your* bank. Think of all the good you'll be doing—and the money comes back to you!' And he sponsored."

The story is prime Fischer: parting people from their money for the greater good while making them feel good. But Fischer knew it'd take more than consummate salesmanship for the UMS to survive. And he knew the old way wasn't the way forward.

"Gail was highly respected in the presenting field, but there was a shift in the model," Fischer explains. "The impresario model … was seen as less effective, and the team model was seen as more effective. And it was my good fortune to get really good people early in my tenure."

One of his first moves was to promote intern Michael Kondziolka [Cond-jol-ka] to director of programming. "He's knowledgeable and passionate, and he's got good negotiating skills, which is not a combination you often find," says Fischer. Kondziolka became the go-to guy for signing artists, dealing with agents, and arranging the season. Programming is the UMS' aesthetic heart, and Kondziolka has overseen it ever since.

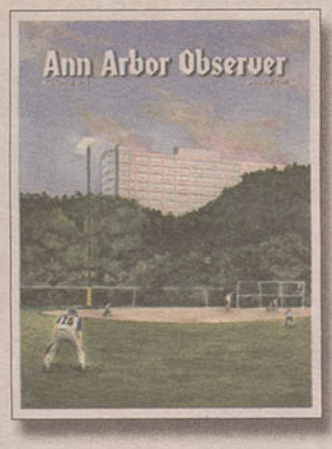
Fischer succeeded in getting the May Festival entirely underwritten by local arts supporters in 1988. But thereafter it lost an average $100,000 a year—until 1995, when Fischer and Kondziolka cancelled it. Some patrons feared that UMS was retreating from classical music—a charge Kondziolka rejects. "The retirement of May Festival was not about losing classical music," he insists. "It was about repurposing the resources to the season proper, so we could have a deep, concentrated experience when it actually made sense: when school was in session.

"Instead of Philadelphia [Orchestra] concerts after classes were over, we could now have Chicago [Symphony] concerts plus forty events around it during the regular season. It just makes more sense from a business point of view: more people are here and more orchestras are touring."

Though classical music didn't disappear, it did become less dominant. With the board's blessing, Fischer and Kondziolka have greatly expanded and deepened UMS's roster of dance and non-Western music performances, and added theater.

Not everything they tried worked, at least not initially.

"Theater we did first in '93," says Fischer. "The Stratford Festival, then the



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Shaw Festival, then the Guthrie Theater. Stratford was successful. Shaw didn't make costs. The Guthrie's costs were underwritten. We realized we needed to step back and think—and we did—and after we brought the Royal Shakespeare Company here in 2001, it proved so successful it became the model for how to present touring classical theater." UMS surrounded the RSC's plays with dozens of lectures and workshops, creating a "residency" that touched the entire campus—and persuaded the university to underwrite part of the cost.

UMS also sharpened its marketing. Like Fischer and Kondziolka, Sara Billmann had interned at the UMS as an undergrad before getting an MBA from Stanford and working as a financial analyst for the San Francisco Opera. Returning to UMS in 1996 as marketing director, she brought a new approach to ticket sales.

"The first season was tough, because much of the money was already spent on trying to sell subscriptions," says Billmann. "The audience had started to shift to single-ticket buyers. Twenty years ago, it was fifty-fifty subscriptions versus single-ticket buyers for the Choral Union Series. Now subscriptions are 20 percent." Today's audiences, especially younger ones, don't want to commit to attending a whole series of events months in advance.

Because subscriptions sell whole concert series, they minimize the number of audience members marketing has to reach. Single tickets exponentially increase that number, but Billmann "had a computer ticket system in place with a wealth of information that I used, and still use, for audience projections and pricing tickets."

Ticket sales are up only slightly over the past thirty years, from 101,764 in 1981 to 105,352 last year. But ticket revenue has grown from $775,000 to $2.8 million—and while tickets provided 80 percent of the group's revenue in 1980, today 60 percent of the budget comes from other sources.

The reason, Fischer says, is that "we added a significant number of non–income-producing activities that are critically important to UMS's mission and provide great value to artists and audiences. We fund these activities through contributed income"—grants, gifts, corporate underwriting, individual concert sponsorships, and ad revenue.

Gifts are the responsibility of Susan McClanahan, who joined UMS in 2002 to run the development department. "The UMS is very traditional in its fundraising," says McClanahan. "We get substantial support from Ford and the U-M Health Center as well as contributions from $50 to $50,000 from individuals for whom the UMS is everything."

McClanahan says her plan "was to create a capital campaign and to increase individual gifts." The campaign, a first, raised $25 million—and despite the recession, individual gifts jumped from $668,106 in 2000 to $939,650 in 2010. Though corporate support took a hit, grant and founda-

tion support also rose significantly. The money goes to fund education programs, community engagement, artistic commissions, artist residencies, and other outreach activities.

Another big part of McClanahan's job is coordinating the UMS's many volunteer groups and working with their thirty-member board—whose members do much more than volunteer. "To be nominated, you have to make a meaningful gift," McClanahan says. In addition to the board, "there's also an eighty-member advisory committee who have to have two significant fund raising events a year."

They've recently added two more advisory groups: the twenty-member UMS National Council of alumni, with residents in New York, California, Florida, and Chicago, and the nineteen-member UMS Corporate Council, for heads of corporations in southeast Michigan. Again, it's the UMS version of "pay to play." "They all make their own contribution," says McClanahan, "and we leverage their contributions to get contributions from others.

"The UMS is a family," McClanahan sums up, "and once you're part of the family, we never let you leave." Presumably that will be true for McClanahan, too—she retired at the end of August.

Still on the job is the man who manages all that money, John Kennard. Kennard bluntly describes UMS's financial state when he arrived in 1989 as "dismal." He says, "The UMS had not had a business manager for years—Gail did that, but then, Gail did everything—and financial systems simply didn't exist." Kennard "designed and implemented a system that generates monthly reports within two weeks of the month's end. It really helps to make prudent business decisions if you know what's going on!"

The programming and financial changes stopped the bleeding, and on his last day in office, in 1996, then-president James Duderstadt forgave the group's $400,000 Summer Festival debt. Since then, Kennard says, they've been profitable all but two years. "Nine-eleven was one. After the planes hit the towers, that killed us for the year. And the other was the crash in '08."

"The UMS is unsurpassed in its field," says Mike Ross, director of the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and chairman of the Major University Presenters, a group of twenty-one college- and university-based presenters to which the UMS belongs.

"There might be people who would argue it's a tie among two or three institutions," Ross continues, "but Ken himself is unsurpassed as an executive director … There are still plenty of presenters out there operating under the impresario model, but the programs with the collective leadership model stand head and shoulders above the others."

That collective model is exemplified by UMS's Wednesday morning programming meetings. In the old days, programming was done by the president, who seized opportunities based on his gut instinct about whom Ann Arborites would pay to see. Today, Kondziolka oversees it—but it's very much a team effort.

Chaired by Kondziolka, the meeting includes his staff, plus Billmann, Kennard, McClanahan, and Fischer. The entire group evaluates potential performances. Billmann, for example, may discuss preliminary attendance and ticket revenue projections—which, Fischer says, are amazingly accurate: "Her projections in the aggregate have had a less than 1 percent differential from the actual results."

Kondziolka and Kennard's departments do "risk assessments" for each performance, while Jim Leija's education department lists community engagement opportunities and the development department looks for individuals, foundations, or corporations that might be interested in supporting the event.

When, after a year of internal discussion, the UMS formally presents the season and the budget to the board of directors, Fischer says, "we all are knowledgeable about the season, the repertoire, and the pronunciations!"

Where is Fischer is all of this? "He always has the big vision," Kennard says, "and he's so successful because he can make the big vision a reality."

Ross, from Major University Presenters, agrees. "He's one of the very rare people that has such a joy of life and is so generous in his spirit that everybody feels better when they're around him. I know I do. In fact, I don't know anyone who doesn't love Ken Fischer!"

That certainly seems true of his teammates. "Ken's great to work for," Billmann says. "He hires good people and he trusts them. He's there if you need him, but otherwise he stays out of the way."

"It's a major reason why he's so successful," agrees Kennard. "In our field, it's rare for management teams to last three or four years—and look at the length of time we've been here!"

"We're a great team," says Kondziolka, sitting cross-legged in a chair in his office surrounded by posters of opera singers, "and we're a great team not because we're smart people but because we've committed to being a highly functional team—where the impresario is embedded in the organization.

"The key to understanding Ken is to know that when he was young, he wanted to be a minister, and that he spent seventeen years working in D.C.," Kondziolka says. "If you put his diplomatic skills and his pastoral-ness together, you'll know what kind of man he is."

When asked to describe his philosophy of life, Fischer replies, "I see power in the Golden Rule. I was raised Presbyterian, and it was only later on when I met Catholics, Jews, Muslims, and Hindus that I started looking for a guiding principle that could bring people together.

"The Golden Rule is part of the thinking of every religion, and as a principle, it transcends them all. It's about how people treat each other—because life is all about relationships."

It certainly is at the University Musical Society. ■

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The Zingerman's Times

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Zingerman's Delicatessen Goes Whole Hog for Spanish Foods

The *Times* travel desk reports that Spain is once again the center of Ann Arbor's culinary universe as Zingerman's Deli brings out the best Spanish oils, hams, cheeses and more for adventurous eaters looking to take a flavorful trip across the Iberian peninsula. This yearly September celebration culminates in...

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September Roaster's Pick:

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Honduras Finca Liquidámbar

September features a Honduran micro-lot from Finca Liquidámbar. The coffee has notes of plum, milk chocolate and a subtle hint of grapefruit; a crisp clean cup.

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Rosh Hashanah Revelers Ready to Party Like it's 5772!

Jewish New Year's Celebrations to Feature Traditional Foods from Zingerman's

Erev Rosh Hashanah
SEPT 28

ANN ARBOR, MI—Reports indicate that Ann Arbor's reputation as a party town is on the rise this month but it's not due to the return of the students. This time, the parties are all about friends, families and feasting and full-flavored foods from Zingerman's are reported to be taking a starring role. Bread bakers at Zingerman's Bakehouse are pulling Moroccan Challah and Challah Turbans out of their ovens while the pastry crew spends their nights baking handmade rugelach and mandelbread. Over at the Zingerman's Delicatessen, the kitchen is preparing Gefilte Fish, Roast Beef Brisket, Noodle Kugel, Matzo Balls and a whole Deli case full of New Year's foods for savvy celebrants who want to let someone else do the cooking while they enjoy the days with friends and family from near and far. The full menu goes live at zingermansdeli.com in September. Chefs at Zingerman's Roadhouse are huddling over recipes to craft their annual special menu for the New Year's week.

- Reserve your Special New Year's Bakes from Zingerman's Bakehouse at 734.761.2095
- Have your New Year's feast catered or order your Rosh Hashanah meal to go from Zingerman's Delicatessen at 734.663.3400
- Reserve your seat at the Roadhouse's Rosh Hashanah table (special menu Sept 28-Oct 5) at 734.663.3663
- Ship gift-boxed New Year's goodies like Mandelbread and Rugelach at zingermans.com or by calling 888.636.8162

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Cheesemakers Start Stretching as Mozzarella Season Officially Opens

With fresh tomatoes hitting the markets, sources say "Mozzarella mania" is officially setting in at Zingerman's. Made with fresh Bel Gioioso curd, Zingerman's mozz is hand-pulled every day at the Creamery, Delicatessen and Roadhouse. The Creamery goes the extra mile with their own smoked mozzarella and a traditional Italian burrata made by stretching the curd into a balloon and filling it with it with mozzarella and cream before sealing the bundle with natural fiber.

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Times Readers Get Schooled at Zingerman's

Record Enrollment at School for Home Bakers Results in School Expansion

"I reach for the BAKE! recipes over and over in my home baking." –BAKE! Alum, Jackie MacGregor

BAKE! Zingerman's Bakehouse

The admissions office at BAKE! hands-on baking school confirms courses are filling so quickly for Fall 2011, a second teaching kitchen is being added for next year. Insiders tell the *Times* that bakers of all skill levels from across the country are learning tips and techniques for making full-flavored breads and pastries in classes taught by experts from Zingerman's Bakehouse.

Space is extremely limited! For the full schedule and to register, visit www.bakewithzing.com.

"Second Saturday" Tours Drawing Record Crowds of Caffeineophiles

Reports say folks are flocking to Plaza drive for the free, no-reservation-required tour of Zingerman's Coffee Company. Inquiring coffee lovers are getting a behind the scenes look that has everyone buzzing!

September 10, 11am-noon. Future events are the 2nd Saturday of each month at 11am.

ZingTRAIN

Business Leaders Drop Out of School of Hard Knocks, Register at ZingTrain

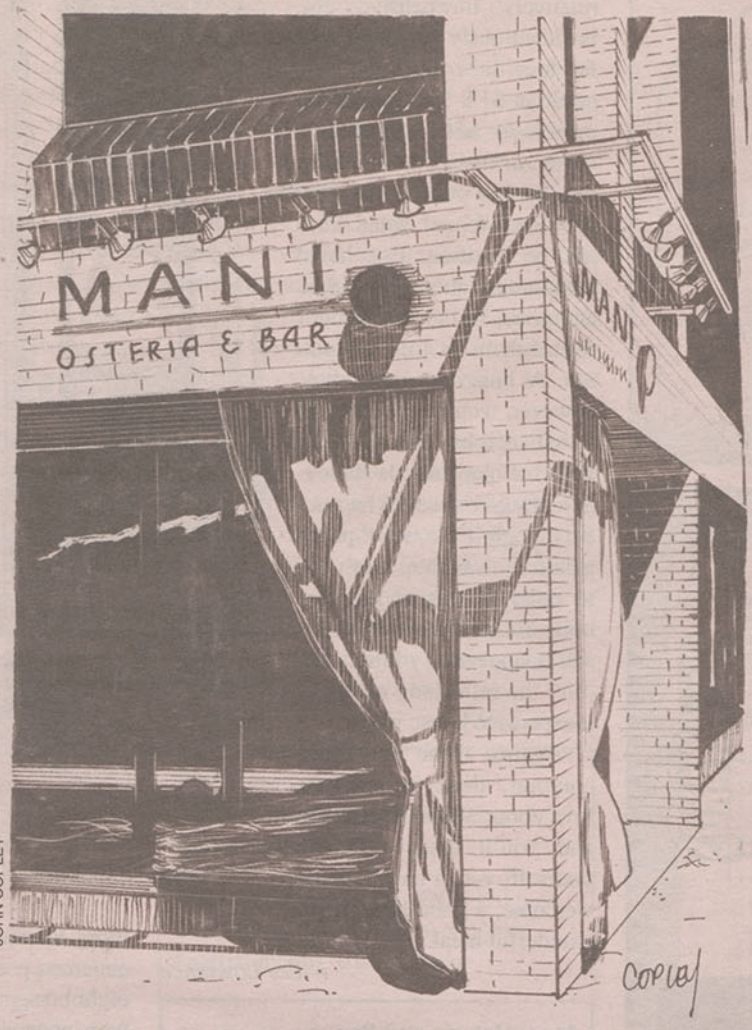
According to the *Times* education desk, business owners and managers who can't afford the high price of learning by trial and error are turning to Zingerman's. John Clark, Director of Bakery and Deli Operation at Harps Stores in Springdale, Arkansas is happy to learn from someone else's experience. "This was easily the best money I have spent on training," he noted after a recent seminar in Ann Arbor.

Taught by Zingerman's owners, managers and staff, ZingTrain seminars reveal the forward-thinking approach to business the organization developed through it's own struggles and successes.

For the 2011-2012 schedule of seminars and workshops visit www.zingtrain.com

Mani Osteria

Attention to detail



JOHN COPLEY

I don't think any resident would say that Ann Arbor suffers from a dearth of restaurants, but how many really please on all levels? The number is small, but with the opening of Mani Osteria, it has grown. This is not to say that the newcomer at the corner of Liberty and Division has achieved perfection, but the list of accolades is long.

In Italy, an *osteria* is a casual place serving wine and simple food, often local specialties, and Mani fits much of this definition. Pizzas, baked in wood-fired ovens, dominate the menu, but appetizers and house-made pastas are also plentiful. The food is fresh, innovative but recognizable, and thoughtfully and carefully prepared. Although some dishes were more impressive than others, we did not regret a single order.

Let's start with the pizzas. The crust, chewy and lightly charred on the bottom, is so flavorful we rarely left the edges uneaten. I prefer a crispier crust myself, but some of my companions found it perfect. We all agreed about the toppings: every pizza we tried was absolutely delicious, from a zesty octopus-and-arugula special to a spicy *polpette* (meatball)-and-ricotta, from an exceptionally good pepperoni to Mani's house-made sausage and peppers, to an elegant *tartufo*, topped with mushrooms, black truffles, Taleggio cheese, and a baked egg. The quantity of the toppings is generous without overwhelming the crust, and at 12 inches, the pizzas are big enough for a dinner or for an appetizer to share with others.

Appetizers and salads occupy half the menu, and though we didn't try them all, we made good inroads. The meatballs on the pizza are also available as an antipasto, so one evening we shared these moist, flavorful orbs on a bed of slightly chunky tomato sauce along with a special—a fried zucchini blossom stuffed with shrimp and ricotta, a light yet luscious choice. Another evening we found the pickled tomatoes surprisingly tasty—and cunningly presented in a small canning jar paired with toasts and ramekins of ricotta and tapenade. The antipasto of lemony grilled octopus tossed with celery and arugula was not quite as phenomenal as the octopus pizza, but still delicious; and Mani's calamari, drizzled with lemon aioli and resting in a pool of tomato broth, was a nice rendition of the ubiquitous fried seafood.

Anyone who appreciates rich, meaty flavor and crispy fat will enjoy the pork belly, paired here with a jammy sweet-tart apricot *marmellata*. We tried two of the three *crudo* (raw meat or fish) appetizers, and found the standard beef carpaccio a better choice than the rather plain and unexceptional tuna with salsa verde. A prosciutto and fig salad featured Gorgonzola, overdressed spinach, and dried rather than fresh figs, but was still far superior to other places' "Michigan" cliché of dried cherries, blue cheese, and nuts. The real knockout salad was a shingled construction of beets and fennel, wonderfully intermingled with grapefruit, ricotta salata, and pistachios.

As good as the food was, what really impressed me was Mani's attention to detail—in the interesting and well-priced wine and cocktail menu, in the training, knowledge, and cordiality of the entire staff, and in the friendly, warm presence of owner Adam Baru.

Mani lists only a few entrées, simple standards like rib eye steak and roasted chicken. None of my guests was interested, so we skipped them entirely to try more pizzas, appetizers, salads, and pastas.

Both pastas and sauces are made in house, and all are thoughtfully and carefully prepared. They come in small and large portions, and one night two of us each ordered two different small portions to maximize our sampling options. Linguine with bay scallops featured tender pasta and sweet, moist, lemony scallops—fabulous. Cannelloni, stuffed with ricotta and summer squash and served on a bed of tomato sauce, was prosaic but good. Gnocchi—ricotta rather than potato—were slices from rolled cylinders. Though not Silvio's soft, tender pillows, Mani's gnocchi were tasty, and the duck ragu topping them was outstandingly rich and meaty. I loved the concept behind Mani's *tagliatelle carbonara*—a softly poached egg atop a bowl of noodles, cheese, and sautéed trumpet mushrooms. Once broken open, the egg combines with the other ingredients, and the result should be a luxuriously rich sauce; unfortunately, the reality was a pile of congealed pasta topped with bits of egg, pancetta, and mushrooms—tasty but stiff. This dish, I think, forgives no pause between execution and consumption.

Another night we ordered the larger versions of the gnocchi, finding them again delicious, and of the papparadelle Bolognese—like the cannelloni, prosaic but good. That said, how many places in town can you say have an *array* of consistently good and sometimes fabulous pastas—or, for that matter, any other type of dish?

As good as the food was, what really impressed me was Mani's attention to detail—not just in the menu, but in the interesting and well-priced wine and cocktail menu, in the training, knowledge, and cordiality of the entire staff, and in the friendly, warm presence of owner Adam Baru. Throughout our visits to Mani, we were made to feel special, to feel welcome. It is certainly the most hospitable restaurant to lately grace the Ann Arbor scene and clearly one that aspires to become a neighborhood fixture, a constant on every Ann Arborite's dining horizon.

So what are the restaurant's drawbacks? It's loud when full, making conversation awkward. (The renovation of the used-furniture shop is attractive, but there are a lot of hard surfaces.) The biggest concern, however, is the value question—the ratio of portion size to price charged. Pizzas, though not inexpensive, are so imaginative and of such high quality that we didn't begrudge their prices. Appetizers and salads, though, ranged from good to poor value. Pickled tomatoes one can share, but the

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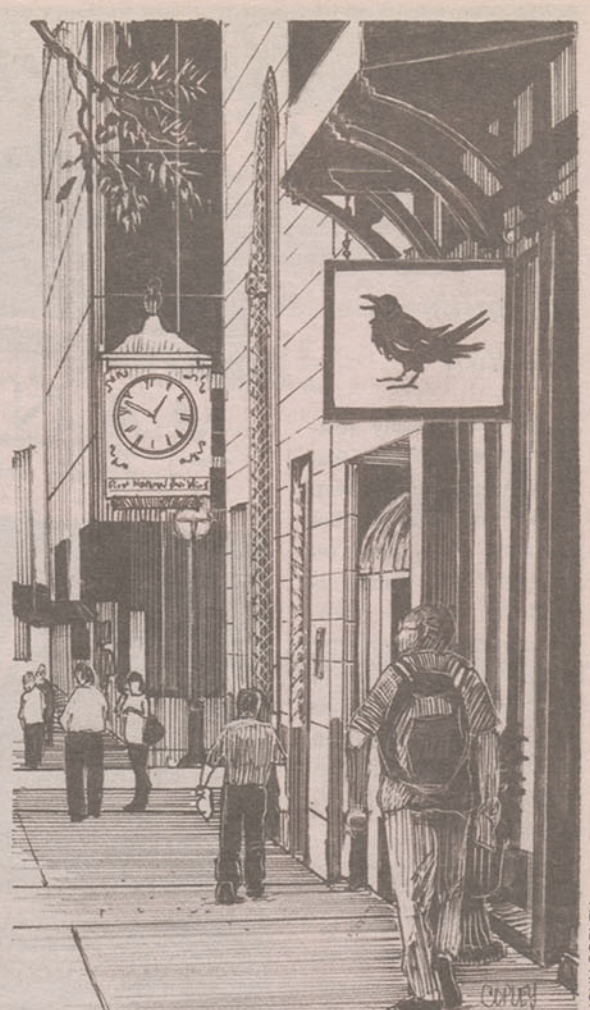
pork belly, a trendy but still relatively inexpensive cut, is ridiculously priced at $10 for four bites, as is the tuna crudo at $12. The size of the prosciutto and fig salad is standard, though a bit costly, but the $10 price on the tiny beet and fennel salad cannot be justified. I've heard complaints about the sizes and prices of the pastas, but I regard them as I do the pizzas. A hungry teenage boy, however, would probably not be satisfied by even the large bowl of pappardelle bolognese. Desserts seem a bit pricey, though if the white peach gelato is available, don't fail to order it. (Avoid the cannoli, which are rather chalky and unappealing.) Mani does offer the refreshing option of inexpensive house wines.

Against those few shortcomings, there is much to love about Mani Osteria. Go and you'll discover it for yourself; you'll have a warm welcome, a good time, and a wonderful meal.

—Lee Lawrence


JOHN COPLEY

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Accessibility: There's a lift for wheelchairs and those unable to climb the few steps into the dining area. The main restrooms are below stairs, but there is an accessible restroom off the dining area.

The Ravens Club

Classy joint

From the wordless image of a black bird out front to the cozy circular booths in the back, the new Ravens Club on Main conjures the vibe of a speakeasy from a century gone by—though these days in Michigan, the only smokiness comes from bluesy jazz. The smart mood works without oversell—there's no machine gun under Plexiglas, just an evocative antique décor, spit and shine on the old Full Moon's massive oak bar, and unusual versions of classic cocktails. (Corktown Honey Bee with rum, thyme, and lemon, anyone?) There's even a rotating featured punch on the drink list. I was more interested in the flights of wine—generous pours of three of your choice for eight bucks total, so you can have sparkly with your shellfish, red with your bread, and white with an entree.

Although historically inspired, the "heirloom cuisine" bends enough to feature what's good locally, like nutty Selma Café granola in the fruit cobbler, and pretty plates of artisanal Michigan cheese. In these blessed harvesting months, local also means fruits and vegetables in their prime. Particularly pleasing were tiny pattypan squashes in the spicy West Indian vegetable stew and crisp and scarlet Goetz farm tomatoes that make you want to swear off supermarket softballs and wait till next year's real thing comes around again.

The first food to come will likely be a plate of breadsticks, with huge discs of paper-thin exotic radishes and spicy bittersweet-orange Café de Paris herbed butter, which has so many mix-ins it's barely buttery. I liked it, but a little bit is plenty. The house-doctored smoky-sweet catsup and the aioli dip that come with cones of crispy fries were more addictive. Appetizers and small plates are a strong suit, with surprises like peppery Creole low-country shrimp and grits with okra and ricotta. This irresistible porridge for grownups is $10, a good value for a dinner two could share. You should each order your own house salad, though, because you won't want to share the varied fresh dark greens sprinkled with toasted sunflower seeds and crispy little yam straws.

Lemony-bacony oysters casino were spot-on, as was a long, slim platter of salad nicoise, except perhaps for the overly salty beet-cured salmon. On the grilled flatbread, chive oil melds swimmingly with mozzarella hummocks and red and green pepper garlands. The short roster of sand-

wiches shows a bit more creativity than you often see: chicken salad, for instance, has a Russian-esque dressing spicy from capers.

Charcuterie platters show up all over town lately, but chef Dan Vernia's stands out for its sensory spectrum. Mixed-meat terrine is fine but no equal to light-as-air chicken liver mousse (creamier than the herbed butter). Pickled shallots, spiced almonds, figs, and berries round out the array of colorful textures, from soft to crunchy and toasty brown. About the only thing I tried that teetered precariously on the precipice of bland was a white bean hummus, which apparently traded in the dip's trademark sesame and lemon flavors for cashews, miso, and mint. But I'm only quoting the menu here; I tasted mainly mildly sour, not unpleasant, anti-garlickiness. (I wouldn't say there's an epidemic of odd ingredients instead of what you expect here, but it is something to watch out for.)

Among entrees, fork-tender braised short ribs with a sauce of shiitake mushrooms and stout could do no wrong. Cabbage rolls—four neat and meaty ones—brimmed with pork belly and lamb sausage and were successfully sauced with a mildly spicy red arrabiata. Jade green basil-anchovy mousse melted luxuriously into mild walleye, cooked in parchment paper to seal in the flavors.

For dessert, a little side pile of gummy diced sugar beets were expendable in the basically fine tart cherry bourbon cake. Other desserts were beautiful and inspired—citrus cheesecake with killer strawberry wine sauce, for instance, and a chocolate sampler that included amazing preserved-ginger fudge unlike anything I've ever encountered. Since they change, I won't dwell on them except to say you could get very, very lucky.

There's much to admire about the artful presentations and impressive aspirations of the new Ravens Club, but I came dangerously close to ending with a negative. Service wasn't where it needed to be on initial visits in July, despite a lot of scurrying of all hands on deck. The waits were too long, with wine arriving to half-eaten entrees, and (gasp!) cream arriving too late to temper rich, dark, local Roos Roast. Everyone was apologetic about delays, as well as knowledgeable about the complex food. Still, I was starting to feel too familiar with the admittedly interesting art deco wallpaper as I scanned the room for our server.

The good news is that more staff has been added, and there are reasons to believe the joint is quickly catching up with its success. It should, because the food is good enough to linger over, and the space is lovely to contemplate, particularly at night, under the cerulean glow of what may be the largest lampshades in town. Check it out to see for yourself.

—M. B. Lewis

The Ravens Club
207 S. Main, (734) 214–0400
theravensclub.com

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JOHN COPLEY

table talk

"Ann Arbor eats corn and tomatoes," says Hollis Smith, an amused smile playing on his face. "Greens don't sell too much over here. They sell in Ypsi." Was that a wink? Is Smith perhaps suggesting that Ann Arbor's vaunted appetite for diversity doesn't extend to summer vegetables?

The Pinckney woman surveying **Smith's produce stand** on the corner of Packard and Stadium just asked if he had any greens. They trade a few happy memories of the collard greens, crowder peas, and okra that Ann Arborites won't eat.

Smith's sign at the Circle K gas station is hard to miss. Readable from all five lanes of Stadium, it always lists just three items in big block letters: SWEET CORN, HONEY ROCKS, TOMATOES. In early August, though, his wheeled cart also carried cukes, eggplant, zucchini, green tomatoes, sweet potatoes, and new potatoes. A few days later, as if spurred to take on a challenge, he was selling fresh crowder peas and okra, too.

Smith, a retired Ann Arbor firefighter (1973–1998), started selling produce as a sideline years ago with fellow firefighter Paul Barnes, who had a farm near Saline. They sold Barnes' produce together in front of the former Food and Drug Mart across the street, until Barnes died three years ago. One night around that time, Smith had just sold "Pete"—then manager of Circle K—some corn and mentioned that he was having trouble with the traffic congestion since the market had been turned into a tiny mall anchored by Stadium Market and Caribou Coffee. "That night, Pete and I dragged the cart across the street. It's been there ever since." The current Circle K manager, Stephanie Suchala, loves having it there. "He's a joy to have. We let him come as early as he wants and leave as late as he wants." And she lets him park the cart behind the store all winter.

Except for Saturdays, when he's closed, Smith's days begin at 6 a.m. when he drives down to his corn supplier, farmer Richard Beland in Dundee. He makes other stops and has his stand open by 10 a.m.

—Sally Mitani

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Marketplace Changes

by Tony McReynolds & Sally Mitani

Biercamp's Yooper Inspiration

Sausage (and, soon, beer) on S. State

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Walter Hansen is a third-generation butcher and Hannah Cheadle has a degree in merchandising. They combined their talents to open Biercamp.

Back in the 1980s, Da Yoopers had a backwoods hit with "Second Week of Deer Camp," a song about the beer-drinking proclivities of Upper Peninsula hunters. It turns out the song didn't inspire the name of Hannah Cheadle and Walter Hansen's **Biercamp Artisan Sausage and Jerky**—but the beer did.

Hansen, twenty-nine, says his dad "used to go up to the Upper Peninsula to a friend's deer camp on Lake Superior. They went there every year and drank a lot of beer and wine, so they called it beer camp." Hansen and Cheadle, also twenty-nine, thought it was the perfect name for their business, though they did make it a little classier by using the German spelling of "beer." They don't actually sell beer yet, but hope to soon—they've applied for a retail beer and wine license.

The couple is from the Sutton's Bay area in northern Michigan. Hansen, a third-generation butcher, went to culinary school in Vancouver, specializing in cured meats. They then moved to New York for six years where, among other jobs, Hansen worked for celebrity chef Mario Batali at his trendy restaurant Del Posto, where one of his primary duties was running the charcutier station, preparing cured meats. Cheadle's degree from Western Michigan University is in merchandising, and while in New York she put in time working for Paul McCartney's daughter, fashion designer Stella McCartney.

Opening a cured-meat business seemed the perfect way to combine their talents. "Walt had talked about opening a place, and he said, 'You could design the store and merchandise it, and I could make everything,'" Cheadle laughs. "And I said, 'Let's do it!'"

They picked Ann Arbor, Cheadle says, because they had family and friends in the area and "we knew it was a foodie town." Also, after surveying the competition, they didn't find anyone doing exactly what they had in mind.

Biercamp is in the front half of the Hoffman Furniture building, on S. State next to the Produce Station (Hoffman is still there, in the back). With its bright white refrigerated cases, it feels like a butcher shop out of the 1960s, an illusion fostered by a selection of soda pop like Faygo and Towne Club in retro bottles with deliberately old-fashioned labels.

"We make artisan sausage, bratwurst, jerky, hot dogs, baloney and cured meat, cheese spreads, and tons of different things," Cheadle says. "We like to make a lot of things that go well with beer and wine." And they make them all from scratch, including a beef jerky pâté, which is their jerky ground up and mixed with cream cheese, dried Michigan cherries, and shallots. The recipes are all either Hansen's own or ones handed down in his family.

Though it's mostly retail, Biercamp does have a small counter with three stools, and a couple of picnic tables outside. Cheadle and Hansen have been pleasantly surprised at the popularity of their lunchtime sandwich specials—Cheadle says half of their customers come in to buy a sandwich, and wind up buying something else as well.

Hansen says they get a lot of customers from the Produce Station next door. "People come in, drawn by the odors coming from the barbecue ovens outside," he says. "They say, 'I just followed my nose—this must be what heaven smells like.'"

Biercamp Artisan Sausage and Jerky, 1643 S. State, 995–2437, Mon.–Sat. 11 a.m.–7 p.m., closed Sun. bier-camp.com

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

A quorum of Seoul Street's owners—Reggie Kim, Jonathan Baek, Jason Choi, and David Lee—show off their Korean style chicken, *mandoo* (dumplings), *bibimbop*, and *kimbop* (seaweed-wrapped rolls, Korean style).

Polar Opposites on Plymouth Road

Seoul Street and a new Subway

White and bright, with counter service and a concise menu, **Seoul Street** appears to be a fast food restaurant. So what's with the sign on the

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Marketplace Changes

counter that says, "Chicken is made fresh every time so it will take a minimum of 20 minutes to prepare. But they are well worth the wait!!!"?

Plenty of people walk into sit-down restaurants on Main Street and expect a plate of food to arrive in less than twenty minutes. Welcome to a hot trend that has every earmark of fast food except its fastness.

The signature menu item here is Korean fried chicken. Koreans know the drill, and so do food lovers who have been to New York and Los Angeles where, natch, the trend arrived a few years ago. You phone in your carefully timed order, then swoop in (perhaps keeping your car running) to rush it home before the candy-apple-like glaze loses its crackle. "We spend a lot of time explaining to [new customers] why it takes twenty minutes," says head chef and partner Jason Choi. "The first time they wait twenty minutes, the second time they know to phone in their orders." Reggie Kim, another partner, adds that twenty minutes is nothing: "On the East or West Coast, sometimes they tell you to call back in an hour."

Choi explains how he makes the crackly crust. "We paint the glaze on with a paint brush" after double deep-frying it. And he emphasizes that this is real deep-frying, which takes longer than KFC-style pressure cooker frying, but is in his opinion a superior technique.

For those innocents who wander in and don't have twenty minutes to wait, the rest of the menu can be accessed a little more quickly, but Seoul Street's owners aren't promising immediate gratification. They believe every order should be made fresh, and don't want their *bibimbop*, *mandoo* (dumplings), and *kimbop* (seaweed-wrapped rolls, Korean style) sitting on a shelf or under a heat lamp either.

Seoul Street's three working partners (the third is Jonathan Baek), all in their thirties, know each other from Cornerstone Church, which meets nearby on Broadway. There are also three silent partners, all friends and relatives. The working partners are all hard working: Baek and Kim both hold down other full-time jobs, Baek teaching middle school and Kim in finance. Chef Jason Choi quit his job in information security last March to spend his time behind the fryer.

None of them has had any professional food experience, but Choi, says Baek, "is the best Korean cook in town right now. We always go to his place to eat." And Choi, despite his lack of professional training, has plenty of experience cooking for crowds: "He's the go-to guy for church events, but he never got paid before," says Kim.

Seoul Street, 1771 Plymouth (Upland Green), 719–0085. Sun.–Wed. 11 a.m.–11 p.m., Thurs.–Sat. 11 a.m.–midnight. eatseoulstreet.com

❧ ❧ ❧

Up the road from Seoul Street, at Plymouth Green Crossings, is a speedier, less exotic option: a new **Subway.** Manager Penny Koths says she thinks there are now seven Subways in Ann Arbor. The corporate website isn't much help—it lists three. This summer, the Observer's City Guide researchers found eight (nine if they'd counted one in the Citgo station at State and I-94, which they didn't).

Perhaps Subway can be forgiven for not being able to keep its website up to date. Koths says, "Subway recently outdid McDonald's. Not more sales, but more stores. We passed them about a month ago."

Subway is definitely fast food—their counter staff can assemble a sub in minutes—but it's also got a fitness angle. Spokesperson Jared Fogle began touting Subway's low-calorie options more than a decade ago, when McDonald's was still supersizing its fries. And Koths says it works in Ann Arbor: "Oh definitely the healthy option, that's what they come to Subway for. Turkey breast is the most popular. We sell more turkey here by far than anything else. Also baked chips, veggie patties, and chicken strips. Anything low fat." And Ann Arborites are eating their vegetables, in the form of "excessive amounts of mild yellow peppers."

This Subway is owned by Brad Turowski, who also owns the one on the other side of Seoul Street in the Courtyard Shops and seven more in the Detroit suburbs.

The trim, energetic Koths looks like a good advertisement for the Subway healthy eating plan. Asked if she did it on the Jared diet, she zings back, "That's because I worked seventy-eight hours last week. I don't sit."

Subway, 3395 Plymouth Rd. (Plymouth Green Crossings), 761–4388. Mon.–Fri. 7 a.m.–11 p.m., Sat. 8 a.m.–11 pm., Sun. 9 a.m.–11 p.m. www.subway.com

Iorio's opens

In Maynard House, a brother-and-sister act

Iorio's Gelateria, on the first floor of the Maynard House apartment building, is owned by brother and sister Nick and Mary Lemmer, twenty and twenty-three, respectively. If you think that sounds young, they've actually been business partners since 2004—when Nick was in eighth grade and Mary was in tenth.

Iorio was their Italian grandmother's maiden name, but the business was their dad's idea. "As a family we'd go out to the East Coast every summer," Nick explains. "Italian ice is very popular out there. And we'd come back to [Lansing] Michigan for the rest of the year and we'd say, 'Dad, where's the Italian ice. How can we get it here?' And dad, being himself, said, 'Well you guys gotta do it—you guys gotta bring Italian ice to Michigan."

Mary got hold of two push carts and lined up an Italian ice supplier, and they were in business, selling at fairs and ball games and catering events within a hundred miles of Lansing. In 2008, they added a year-round stand in the Lansing City market to sell gelato—which is like ice

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

cream, but made with milk.

The Ann Arbor store sells gelatos and *sorbettos,* a denser cousin of Italian ices. "What we wanted to do in Ann Arbor is create an authentic Italian *gelateria* experience," Mary explains—and that wouldn't include Italian ice because Italian *gelaterias* don't carry it. (Italian Americans in New York City developed it in the 1920s.)

Alice Lemmer, Nick and Mary's mom, is minding the Lansing operation while the siblings and former Lansing staffer Shawn Targosz get the Ann Arbor branch up and running. They need Shawn's help because Nick is still in college: he's a U-M junior studying industrial operations. Mary, who has a bachelor's in business from the U-M, works full time as a financial analyst.

Their Lansing-area supplier can make more than 500 flavors of gelato and sorbetto, but Iorio's will only have twenty-four on hand at any one time. Nick's favorite gelatos are roasted pistachio and *stracciatella*, which he describes as a vanilla chocolate chip, "but not big chunks, it's chocolate shreddings." Other flavors include white chocolate strawberry cheese cake, roasted garlic white chocolate, and chocolate bourbon bacon fudge. Sorbetto flavors include blood orange, papaya, melon, pomegranate, and plum. Prices start at $3.25 for a small dish or a regular cone; they hope to add waffle cones soon.

Iorio's Gelateria, 522 East William, (202) 643–5286. Mon.–Sat., noon–11 p.m., Sun. noon–8 p.m. michigangelato.com

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Mary and Nick Lemmer owned an Italian-ice cart in Lansing when they were in tenth and eighth grade, respectively. At Iorio's Gelateria they're selling gelato and *sorbetto*, Italian ice's more authentic cousin.

Lily's Garden moves to Detroit St.

A family flower shop finds a home.

Several local flower shops have closed in the last few years, but **Lily's Garden** is thriving. The three-woman partnership of Harriet Held, Genevieve Stoyak, and Amanda Steele has moved into the house next door to Zingerman's Next Door, along with an entourage that includes a mother, five children, and a dog, various members of which also live there. (They can do the live-work thing because the house is zoned commercial/residential; some might remember it from the 1990s as the Pelletier Gallery.) But there is no longer a Lily on board. The three bought the business from Lily Kittle in 2003, when it was in Kerrytown. They moved it to Marketplace Shops on the other side of the Farmers Market, and in July they opened in their new location.

"This is my mom. She's part of the story," says Held, introducing Janet Chin, who is sitting in the large kitchen eating a bowl of soup that Held calls "hillbilly stew."

"You call it hillbilly stew. Where I come from in Floyd County, Virginia, people call it stacked vegetables," Chin says equably. "You put in layers of vegetables and the meat on top …"

"We never in a million years thought we could get this building because it was so awesome," says Stoyak, arranging a hospital bouquet on the kitchen counter.

Chin, a retired librarian, helped them pull it off by selling her house in what she calls "the high-rent student-hovel neighborhood—there's always buyers for those." She and Held live upstairs. Held's children live there part-time, and Steele's two kids also spend a lot of their free time there. They especially love the enclosed back courtyard, which gives the new Lily's Garden its own secret garden. A dog named Arthur completes the household. When a customer comes in, Arthur hurls himself to the floor, legs-in-the-air submission posture, and rests his head beseechingly on the client's shoes. "Yeah, he pretty much does that with everyone," Held says.

Held explains, a little counterintuitively,

Photo by Burrill Strong Photography

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Marketplace Changes

that having a full-service flower shop rather than an online or by-appointment-only business actually suits the current unstable economy, allowing customers to be spontaneous. "We find that we're trending more toward small, intimate events with less planning. People can just walk in and say, 'We're going to be married at the courthouse tomorrow.' These days people don't know what they'll be doing in a year."

Lily's Garden, 414 Detroit St., 663–2693. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.–4 p.m., closed Sun. www.lilysgarden.com

in their travels—an old Plymouth hubcap, for instance, from a recent trip to the UP. "We stopped at anything we saw alongside the road," Turner says. "Honestly I don't know where we were. We didn't have a map. We just kind of drove around—this is awesome, let's check this out, oh, it's getting late, better turn around. It was a blast."

Renner says she's "already looking forward to decorating the shop this winter. It has kind of a cabin feel."

Avtomobile, 309 E. Liberty, 369–6339. Wed.–Fri. 11 a.m.–7 p.m., Sat. 11 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m., closed Mon. & Tues. (no website).

❧ ❧ ❧

Briefly noted

Avtomobile, a tiny new shop on East Liberty underneath the Bead Gallery, is hard to characterize, but it's not hard to say. It's pronounced—pronovnced?—"automobile." Maris Turner, one-half of the young artist couple who owns it, takes the credit and blame for the name. "It's from pop-up art shows me and my buddies did in New York. Our logo was a structural drawing of a car. We called it avtomobile." He says people don't always get the Roman *u*, somehow more recognizable when chiseled into courthouse mottos about jvstice.

Maris Turner, half of the young artist couple that opened Avtomobile underneath the Bead Gallery, says people don't always get the Roman u, *somehow more recognizable when chiseled into courthouse mottos about jvistice.*

Turner and Sara Renner, his partner both in and out of work, met at Columbus College of Art and Design in Ohio. They landed jobs that watchers of Project Runway would kill for—designing for American Eagle—and moved to New York. And then? "We were just done with the corporate thing," says Renner.

"We thought it would be more fun to do our own thing on our own terms, in a cool town like Ann Arbor," says Turner, who grew up in Chelsea and has a lot of friends and family in the area. Renner is from "a small farm town in Ohio. When I was little, my grandma taught me to sew. I did 4–H and all that."

They didn't entirely burn their bridges—both still freelance for American Eagle. In fact, a top that Sara designed (she quickly sketched it) will go on sale this winter. "Shhh, it's kind of top secret," she laughs.

The tiny shop is hard to characterize because of the his-and-her aspect. "I sell a lot of the girl things. I'll alter vintage clothes or fabrics that I find. Or if it's really awesome I'll leave it alone," Renner says. She shows a top she just made from a white eyelet table runner.

Turner's framed watercolor and pencil drawings line the walls, and he has designed a "Motor City" logo that he screenprints on T-shirts and sweatshirts, and sometimes on vintage garments, too. They sell other miscellaneous things picked up

The marketing genius who invented the **Blue Apple** concept for the Mobil station and convenience store at Packard and Platt was the owner's eighth-grade niece, Kavya. Owner Dave Davuluri says he wanted a name that would honor the U-M's colors and Go Blue slogan: "We wanted the community to understand that we were part of it. We thought of Blue Mart and some other things like that, and she said, 'What about Blue Apple?' I said it to myself several times and I liked it."

The bright new sign on the newly cleaned-up store is crisp, inviting, and eye-catching with its yellow letters and a picture of a blue apple replacing the letter *a*. Davuluri also shows off other Blue Apple features that he hopes will draw people inside once they've pulled up to the gas pump. Getting people off the pavement and in the door is critical, because convenience stores make their profit not so much on gas but on the snacks and sundries inside.

This is Davuluri's first gas station, but he's worked in convenience stores before and is putting into practice his ideas of what will make or break them. First, he wanted a safe, clean environment, so he added banks of windows to the old Buddy's Mini Mart building and amped up the lighting. "The idea is that a ten-year-old girl could come in here alone, and her mother waiting in the car wouldn't worry about her."

To cultivate returning customers, he has invested in an expensive reverse-osmosis system to filter the water used in fountain and coffee drinks. Really picky coffee drinkers might care to inquire about the digital timers on the urns that show exactly how old the coffee is; if you can't figure out the iconography, just remember the coffee is thrown out after four hours anyway. "We throw out a lot of coffee," Davuluri admits. The fountain has Coke *and* Pepsi—"Sometimes the husband likes Pepsi, the wife likes Coke"—as well as basic groceries, all manner of snacks and prepared foods, and something you don't find in your average city gas station: a small refrigerator of fishing worms and

night crawlers.

Blue Apple, 3005 Packard, 973–8020. Daily 24 hours (no website).

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White House Black Market is Briarwood's newest women's clothing store. Its name derives from the store's gradually expanding color palette. Originally two Baltimore chains of boutiques that had even more limited color tolerances (White House for your whites and ivories, and Black Market for your basic blacks), they merged into one store and eventually were bought out by Chico's. There are now 300-and-some of them.

Store employees are not allowed to engage with media, and the corporation doesn't seem to like it much either. The phone number the two employees were instructed to give us was Chico's main corporate office, which on Friday afternoons—which this was—goes to an automated attendant.

Based on a look around, we can report that while black and white are still prominent, shades of red pop up a lot, too. Stylewise, these appear to be clothes for young women who dress to look politely hot; they're moderately well made, though not in the same league as Ann Taylor across the hall.

White House Black Market, Briarwood, 913–6954. whitehouseblackmarket.com

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At the moment, the south end of Stone Plaza, at the corner of Ellsworth and Stone School Rd., is a little short on eateries, but the situation is soon to be rectified. The north end of the center is anchored by the large Ahmo's Deli as well as the Mediterranean Market, so no one's going to starve to death, but sadly, **MisSaigon,** one of Ann Arbor's precious few Vietnamese restaurants, closed suddenly at the end of June. "It was just time for retirement," says Lisa at Issa Properties (the landlord). The lease wasn't up, and the space hasn't been filled yet, she says, "but we're working on it."

A few doors down, **Bangkok Cuisine** has been closed most of the summer, but Lisa believes it will reopen in September: same menu, new owner. Bangkok Cuisine is a small Detroit chain, and Lisa emphasized that this particular franchise is just changing hands.

On the other side of MisSaigon, and expected to be open at press time but not quite there yet, is **Piatti di Pasta.** Owner Mike DeCola has never owned a restaurant before, but he's a cousin of the DeVarti family, which owns Dominick's. In the morning Piatti will be a coffee shop, serving Roos Roast coffee and pastries. For lunch and dinner, DeCola will have a short menu of Italian subs, homemade lasagnas, and pastas in the $10–$14 range.

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In early August the last traces of Naser Derneika's **Gyro Palace** at the Colonnade were being cleared away to make room for Ali Hijazi's latest **Zamaan Café.** (Hijazi has closed a location on Packard, but still has his place on Plymouth, so the count stands at two.) Mike Ervin, from the Oreck vacuum store a few doors down, had brought over an Orbiter, a whirling, multiple-attachment floor machine. Carpenter Paul Gerard watched as it scrubbed and buffed the grimy grout and tile to shiny newness. (The demonstration of the miraculous Orbiter then moved over to the Oreck storefront, where Ervin whipped out a fat red indelible marker to make a carpet stain that would make any homeowner blanch, and quickly eradicated it with a series of other Orbiter attachments and special products.)

Gerard, who has known both Derneika and Hijazi for years, didn't know why Gyro Palace closed in June. He scrolled his phone looking for Derneika's phone number to ask him and seemed relieved when he couldn't find it. Working for Hijazi on this job he's looking forward, not back, but he says that with so many restaurants, the Colonnade has a parking shortage at mealtimes. "You know what I'd do? I'd blow out this vacant space next door and build a drive-through window." Ervin, looking up from his Orbiter, noted that Gyro Palace had been gradually cutting its hours for a long time.

Closings

Hours after Borders Inc. made it official—the business is dead, the liquidators are coming—things seemed almost normal at the downtown **Borders,** "Store Number One." A light crowd milled about the new fiction table display at the front, while a U-M student scanned a shelf of DVDs on sale. Here and there, bits of overheard conversation floating among serious-faced customers revealed that the bad news had gotten to them, and inside them. "I remember years ago when it was still on State Street," a silver-haired woman said to a companion. "It was such a wonderful store." The lone clerk behind the cash register urged customers to consider buying "the wonderful Lindt chocolate" on the counter.

Local Borders employees were saddened but not surprised by the company's demise; the Arborland store had already closed after the February bankruptcy filing, and they'd been prepared for the worst. The Lohr Rd. and downtown stores remain open temporarily, selling a mix of Borders back stock and an odd miscellany the liquidators acquired from other defunct retailers (see feature, p. 25), but are likely to close this month.

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Big Boy was thinking big when the company opened **@burger,** their first foray into the "fast casual" gourmet burger business, in McKinley Towne Centre last summer. They didn't even last a year—@burger closed its doors for good in June.

It was a quiet end for what was supposed to be the flagship restaurant of a new national chain. There was no big announcement, just a sign on the door saying they were closed. "We didn't expect as much of a loss when students left for the summer," admits David Crawford, Big Boy Restaurants vice-president of marketing. At the same time, "Five Guys [Burgers and Fries] opened down the street. All those factors combined just made us realign and get back to the Big Boy Business."

Might Big Boy give fast casual another shot sometime in the future? "Oh, no, not me," Crawford laughs.

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Squares, also open for less than a year, announced a temporary closing at the beginning of summer. By July, Bluestone Realty was posting a For Lease sign in the window on E. Liberty. "I feel bad for them. They lost half a million dollars. I don't like to see anyone lose that kind of money," says Nick Stamadianos, owner of the Cloverleaf, a few doors down. It's an exceptionally gracious sentiment on his part, considering that Squares several times had people standing in front of Cloverleaf handing out Squares discount coupons, a violation of the most basic restaurant-owner etiquette.

"They had a $7 gyro," says Nick (whose long last name puts him on a first-name basis with everyone), "and I didn't hear anyone say they would go back for another one." But Nick says that even after all his years of being in business, he still can't predict what makes it and what doesn't. "What happened to @burger? They had it all, a liquor license, everything. Oh well, I sell a Knight's burger for $2.50, and I don't see people rushing in here for it."

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"The long and the short of it is the economy hit us pretty hard and we decided it was time to get out," says Mike Hanss. He planned to close **Putt N Glow** at the end of August. Hanss opened Putt N Glow in 2007 in partnership with friends Cindy Hart and Sue Souder. Miniature golf played under black lights was popular mainly with kids. Given its proximity to Mocha Mountain, the indoor jungle gym, kids who played their cards right could often pull off a double-header. But kids don't pay the bills—and, kids, if you've been reading the financial pages, you know you should be preparing for a long season of cheaper pleasures like Kick the Can and shooting hoops.

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The **Citgo** gas station on Packard just west of Platt closed at the end of June. Chuck Gallup, owner of the property, says, "My dealer just closed up one day—said he wasn't making any money. I'm looking for another dealer, but I may do some modernization first."

Got a restaurant or retail change? Email sallymitani@gmail.com or tonymcreynolds@tds.net, or leave voicemail at 769–3175 ext. 309.

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Music at Nightspots

by John Hinchey

Listings are based on information available at press time. ***Up-to-date schedules are posted at arborweb.com,*** *but it may be advisable to call ahead. Times are noted only if they differ from the default showtimes listed in the description of each club.*

The Ark

316 S. Main **761–1451**

Michigan's leading showcase for American and international performers of all forms of traditional music. Shows almost every night at 8 p.m., Mon.–Sat., & 7:30 p.m., Sun. Unless otherwise noted, tickets are sold in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio and the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. **Sept. 1: The Fishtank Ensemble.** *See review, p. 55.* Widely heralded Euro-American quartet from Oakland (CA) whose music includes traditional Roma, klezmer, and flamenco tunes, along with originals shaped by an artful blending of all these styles. $15. **Sept. 2: Orpheum Bell and The Red Sea Pedestrians.** Double bill. Orpheum Bell is a local self-styled acoustic "country and eastern" quintet that features a richly musical, often ravishing blend of country-folk rhythms with Gypsy and other Eastern European melodies, drawing on a diverse range of influences from the Carter Family and Gillian Welch to Kurt Weill, Tom Waits, and the Pogues. Its core sound blends vocals, accordion, guitar, and double bass, with additional texture and luster from violins, clarinet, percussion, and autoharp. Red Sea Pedestrians is a Kalamazoo neo-klezmer sextet of singer-songwriters and multi-instrumentalists who blend traditional klezmer music with a host of other styles. $15. **Sept. 7: Open Stage.** All acoustic performers invited. Fifteen acts are selected randomly from those who sign up to perform 8 minutes (or 2 songs) each. The most talented and popular Open Stage performers are offered their own evenings at the Ark. $3 (members & students, $2). **Sept. 8: Chris Thile & Michael Daves.** Exuberant jazz-inflected postpunk bluegrass by 2 former members of the Punch Brothers, Nickel Creek mandolinist Thile and guitarist Daves. Their repertoire includes both originals and inventive takes on bluegrass classics. $25. **Sept. 9: The David Wax Museum.** A bracing, high-energy mix of Mexican folk music with rootsy indie rock by this ensemble led by Missouri-bred singer-songwriter Wax. $10 (students with ID, free). **Sept. 10: John McCutcheon.** A big favorite with local audiences, McCutcheon is a hammered-dulcimer virtuoso whose repertoire features all forms of Appalachian music, from sacred harp songs and traditional ballads to buoyant hoedowns, contemporary songs, and originals, including a series of labor union songs for kids. Called by *Frets* magazine "the most versatile and energetic figure in the American traditional revival," McCutcheon also plays guitar, banjo, fiddle, and autoharp, and he's a witty, charming performer. $20. **Sept. 11: Carbon Leaf.** Acoustic Celtic-rock quintet from Richmond, Virginia. A *Performing Songwriter* critic calls the band's 2007 CD, *Love, Loss, Hope, Repeat,* "four easy steps to rock 'n' roll bliss." $17.50. **Sept. 13: Bernard Allison.** This blues singer-guitarist is the son of Luther Allison, a longtime Ann Arbor favorite from the early 70s until his death in 1997. He shares his father's guitar prowess and gritty, soulful voice, and he's expanded the postwar urban blues palette he inherited with R&B, rock 'n' roll, and funk colorings. $20. **Sept. 14: Ben Sollee.** A former member of Abigail Washburn's Sparrow Quartet, Sollee is a singer-songwriter and classically trained cellist whose music draws on Appalachian, chamber pop, jazz, and blues idioms. "I never expect to see the cello in one piece after Ben gets done playing it," says My Morning Jacket frontman Yim Yames. "He bows and beats it and works it over with a passionate fury rarely seen." $15. **Sept. 15: Ember Swift.** Award-winning singer-songwriter from Toronto—Joni Mitchell is one of her fans—whom one critic called a "jazz vocalist inhabiting the body of an alternative-folk singer-songwriter." Her music mixes and matches several genres from funk and punk to world music and reggae, and her songs address a wide range of political and cultural issues. Swift's latest CD, *Lentic,* offers a "folktronica" sound that features songs in English amd Mandarin accompanied by instruments from China, where she has studied and performed, along with electronics. $15. **Sept. 18: Willy Porter.** Pop-folk singer-songwriter from Milwaukee whose music blends roots-pop with elements of funk and country, and whose songs span a wide range of moods, from the trucker-inspired "Jesus on the Grille" and the girl-in-the-diner ode "Glow" to the erotic mysticism of "Watercolor," all accompanied by his intricately virtuosic acoustic guitar playing. Opening act is **Seth Glier,** a singer-songwriter from western Massachusetts with a powerful falsetto and captivating melodic sense who was featured in the 2009 *Prairie Home Companion* "People in Their 20s" contest. $17.50. **Sept. 19: Joy Kills Sorrow.** Acclaimed young Boston-based newgrass string quintet that sets its original songs to old-time pop, country, blues, and jazz styles. The *L.A. Daily News* calls them a "more accessible, less pleased-with-themselves Nickel Creek." 12.50. **Sept. 20: Maria Muldaur & Her Red Hot Bluesiana Band.** Best known for her 1974 pop hit "Midnight at the Oasis," Muldaur is a versatile vocalist, with a range that moves effortlessly from a throaty growl to a startlingly pure upper register. She can belt out a raucous, bawdy blues, light up an emotionally charged ballad, or swing hard with hornlike phrasing on a jazz standard. Her acclaimed 2001 CD *Richland Woman Blues* is a collection of songs by Memphis Minnie and other early female blues pioneers, and her brand-new CD, *Steady Love,* is a collection of high-energy blues and swamp funk tunes recorded with an all-star cast of New Orleans musicians. $20. **Sept. 21: Eilen Jewell.** Boston-based, Boise-bred young singer-songwriter who writes intimate personal songs, alternately playful and searching, in a style that blends classic country and western swing with a range of influences from Billie Holiday and Hank Williams to Bob Dylan and Gillian Welch. "Jewell's music has the languorous quietude of Welch or Norah Jones, but there is something more direct, almost in your face, about her stark, neotraditional melodies, subdued vocals, and confident, slow-swaying groove," says the *Boston Globe.* "Jewell's songs are achingly good, twanged-out elegies to a world of barbed wire, rusty trucks, and a frontier that no longer exists." $15. **Sept. 22: "Earth Tones."** A benefit for the Michigan League of Conservation Voters with an all-star Michigan lineup featuring the singer-songwriter duo **May Erlewine & Seth Bernard,** local singer-songwriters **Chris Buhalis** and **Jay Stielstra,** the local experimental acoustic roots-music sextet **Dragon Wagon,** and all-female Detroit-area roots-country quartet **Stella!** $40 (students with ID, $20). 7:30 p.m. **Sept. 23: Mavis Staples.** This legendary gospel, soul, and R&B diva first came to prominence with her father and sisters as a member of—and the most riveting voice in—the Staple Singers gospel and soul vocal quartet. Her subsequent career as an R&B and pop-soul vocalist has been buoyed by the resources of a quintessentially gospel voice that many of her peers—from Bob Dylan to Prince—have found as stirring as any they have ever heard. With its trademark blend of awesome power and shimmering grace, punctuated here and there with a startling growl, her singing almost never fails to convey a revelatory urgency that, at its best, can change the way you listen to music. Her new CD, *You Are Not Alone,* is a collection of gospel standards and pop covers produced by Wilco frontman Jeff Tweedy, who also wrote a couple of new songs for the record. $50 ($125–$500 includes a pre-show dinner reception catered by Zingerman's Roadhouse). 8:30 p.m. **Sept. 24: Red Horse.** In-the-round performances by this new all-star trio of singer-songwriters **Eliza Gilkyson, John Gorka,** and **Lucy Kaplansky.** $30. **Sept. 25: Lindsay Lou & the Flatbellys.** Lansing swing-flavored bluegrass band fronted by the rich, buoyant, often piercing vocals of singer-songwriter and guitarist Lindsay Rachel Petroff. Opening act is **Jen Sygit & Sam Corbin** (see Crazy Wisdom). $15. **Sept. 26: Patrizio.** Patrizio Buanne is a young Italian singer who specializes in the Italian American pop music of the 1950s and 1960s he first heard growing up in his father's pizzeria in Naples. $25. **Sept. 27: Hannah Winkler and Match by Match.** Double bill featuring 2 former winners of Ark at the UMMA Student Songwriter Series. Hannah Winkler is a local acoustic folk singer-songwriter, and Match by Match is the local postpunk pop-folk duo of guitarist Gray Bouchard and accordionist Melissa Coppola. FREE. All encouraged to bring nonperishable food or money to donate to Food Gatherers. **Sept. 28: Asleep at the Wheel.** Founded in the early 70s by singer-guitarist Ray Benson, this celebrated Austin-based western swing revivalist band has become a pivotal country music institution. Its 1997 CD *Tribute to the Music of Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys* features guest vocals by everyone from Willie Nelson and Merle Haggard to Dolly Parton and Garth Brooks, and its 2009 CD *Willie and the Wheel* is an album-length collaboration with Nelson. $30. **Sept. 29: Deke Dickerson.** L.A. roots-rock band led by this acclaimed singer-guitarist whose style blends rockabilly, surf, and country jazz. $13.50. **Sept. 30: The RFD Boys.** Authentic bluegrass by these longtime local favorites who have appeared in numerous festivals and on the cover of *Bluegrass Unlimited* magazine. Their shows blend top-notch musicianship with funny between-songs dialogue. They have several recordings, including *Live and Unrehearsed,* a 1994 Ark performance. $11 at the door only.

The B-Side

310 E. Washington **214–9995**

This all-ages venue in the Neutral Zone teen center (with a side alley entrance off Fifth Ave.) features a mix of touring, local, and teen bands, usually Sat., 7–11 p.m. Cover, dancing. **Sept. 9: Scotch Mist.** Skyline High prog-rock band. Opening acts are the Dexter pop punk band **Someday Came Suddenly,** local teen hip-hop MC **O.D.D.,** and Community High folk-rock singer-songwriter **Kerry Fingerle. Sept. 17: "Freshy Water Music Fest!"** An afternoon of panel discussions and workshops about the independent music industry, local music scenes, and the DIY movement, concluding with evening performances by local electronic artist **Shigeto** and local hip-hop MC **Jamall Bufford** (aka Buff1). 1–11 p.m. **Sept. 24: Appleseed Collective.** See Woodruff's. Opening act is **Me & Ryan,** a local guitar-and-ukulele folk-rock duo.

The Black Pearl

302 S. Main **222–0400**

This seafood and martini bar features live music Tues. & Wed., 7–10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Tues.: Laith Al-Saadi.** Soulful acoustic rock and blues covers and originals by this local singer-guitarist. **Sept. 7: Hailey Hewitt Clark.** Classically trained soprano from Cary (NC) whose songs reflect traditional folk, blues, country, bluegrass, and gospel influences. **Sept. 14: Laith Al-Saadi.** See above. **Sept. 21: Jody Raffoul.** Canadian pop-rock singer-songwriter who's been described as a hybrid of Bono and Bruce Springsteen. He is joined by backup vocalist and guitarist **Wes Buckley. Sept. 28: Beth Stalker & Jim Rawlings.** An eclectic mix of styles, from blues, R&B, and jazz to rock and country, by the Detroit Music Award–winning duo of singer-songwriter Stalker and songwriter-guitarist Rawlings.

rock 'n' roll

Alejandra O'Leary

Version 2.0

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Welcome to Alejandra O'Leary version 2.0. In early April, the young singer-songwriter introduced a new wrinkle to her already impressive musical repertoire—a backing band. Flanked by Jeremy Frey on bass and Jamie Church on guitar and with John Grandstaff keeping beat on the drums, O'Leary played her first gig with her new band on April Fool's Day, a mere two weeks after forming it.

For those unfamiliar with O'Leary, she is a real talent who has been gaining a strong following in Ann Arbor since she arrived here with her boyfriend, a U-M law student, a year ago. Born in Portland, Maine, O'Leary spent five years as a musician in New York City (where she cut her first album, *Nothing Out Loud*) before her move to Ann Arbor. Once in Michigan, she had to reestablish a fan base and initially did so by performing her songs solo on guitar. However, vascular problems in her left arm made playing guitar increasingly difficult, so now, with the backing of her new band, she has switched to keyboards.

O'Leary's voice sounds like a combination of Jenny Lewis and Victoria Williams, and her songs are both catchy and fun—polished, straightforward, and barroom accessible. But they also have a certain lyrical toughness that's reminiscent of another Williams, Lucinda. In "Broken Mirror Baby" (the title track of her brand-new second album), she delivers lyrics about "talking smack and shooting your mouth off" and getting "the wind kicked out of me." "When Will They Learn" is an anti-crush song about wanting other people to realize the faults of her former boyfriend and stop pining over him—a very Lucinda Williams–ish theme.

While her songs stand on their own, O'Leary's between-songs banter shows her confidence in her craft and adds to the entertainment. "This is a drunken country ballad called 'Thinkin' Straight,' which is about not thinking straight," she quipped, full smile, before she and the band started in on a raucous tune that featured O'Leary kicking a tambourine on a nearby table while shredding the keyboards and delivering a killer vocal.

"I love playing with a band," O'Leary admitted after the show. It showed. The band looked equally enthused, and the foursome can only get better with time. While the band wasn't involved in her new album, it certainly adds an edge to her older material, and it will be interesting to see what sorts of songs O'Leary and her musicians come up with collaboratively. Regardless, an already legitimate talent has added a bit more oomph to her rock 'n' roll credentials. I can't wait to see where it takes her.

Alejandra O'Leary and her band celebrate the release of *Broken Mirror Baby* with shows at Crazy Wisdom on September 3, at Woodruff's on September 7, and at the Tap Room on September 10.

—Chris Berggren

The Blind Pig

208 S. First St. **996–8555**

This local music club features live music 5 nights a week, with a varied assortment of local and out-of-town rock 'n' roll, blues, reggae, and dance bands, 10:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m. (unless otherwise noted). Also, occasional early shows, usually 7–10 p.m. Karaoke on Mon.; closed most Sun. If there's an opening act, the headliner usually goes on stage between 11:30 p.m. and midnight. Cover (except "Showcase Night"), dancing. If advance tickets are sold, they are available at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and all other Ticketmaster outlets. **Sept. 1: Steppin' in It.** Popular Lansing string band that plays everything from bluegrass, country-folk, and country blues to Cajun, western swing, and calypso. Veteran Americana instrumentalist Sally Van Meter describes its music as "what would happen if Hank Williams joined forces with Wayne the Train Hancock and a folk band featuring Tom Waits." Opening act is **Appleseed Collective** (see Woodruff's). Advance tickets: $10. **Sept. 2: Ann Arbor Soul Club.** Classic soul music by the local DJ duo of Brad Hales and Robert Wells. **Sept. 3: Child Bite.** Ferndale postpunk art-rock band. Opening acts are **Zoos of Berlin,** a Detroit experimental pop quintet whose influences range from Bowie and Eno to German pop, and **Congress,** an Ypsilanti punk-rock band. **Sept. 6: Royce da 5'9".** *All ages admitted.* Acclaimed Detroit hip-hop MC most widely known as a member with Eminem of the duo Bad Meets Evil. Opening act is **Casper da Ghost,** a Jamaica (NY) hip-hop MC. Advance tickets: $20. 8 p.m.–midnight. **Sept. 7: FinalQue.** Detroit pop-rock band. Opening acts are the new local pop-rock band **New Arbor** and 2 other bands TBA. **Sept. 8: Boombox.** Muscle Shoals duo whose music blends rock 'n' roll, psychedelia, and house music. Opening acts are **Eliot Lipp,** a Brooklyn-based electro-funk musician, and **Superdre,** a Michigan-bred electro-funk musician with a minimalist approach rooted in her classical training. Advance tickets: $15 ($17 at the door). **Sept. 9: Macpodz.** Immensely popular local jam band that plays an invigorating mix of R&B, soul, rock, and hard jazz it calls "disco bebop." Opening acts are **Lubriphonic,** a Chicago funk-inflected rock 'n' soul band, and **Sophistafunk,** a Syracuse electro-funk hip-hop trio. Advance tickets: $10 (ages 18–20: $13.) **Sept. 10: The Bang!** Dance party with this local DJ collective that plays garage and 70s rock. **Sept. 13: "Showcase Night."** With 4 different young local bands TBA. **Sept. 14: Stepdaddy.** Rock band. Opening acts are the local progressive metal band **Weisswolf** and 2 other bands TBA. **Sept. 15: Tapes 'n' Tapes.** Minneapolis rock band. Opening act is **Howler,** a Minneapolis surf-thrash quartet. Advance tickets: $12. **Sept. 16: The Way West.** Manchester pop-punk sextet. Opening acts are the Kalamazoo experimental rock quintet **Your Highway Home,** the local teen pop-punk band **Heroes on Parade,** the Detroit hardcore metal quintet **Oath and Honor,** the local sex-addled hardcore sextet **Sycamour,** the West Bloomfield post-hardcore quintet **Smiles & Anchors,** the Flat Rock post-hardcore rock quartet **Ardevedra,** and the Holt ambient hardcore sextet **I Made a Monster.** 7 p.m.–2 a.m. **Sept. 17: Kadence.** Highly regarded local hip-hop MC who tonight celebrates the release of his new CD. Opening acts are veteran local techno DJ **Dabrye** and others TBA. **Sept. 20: The Dodos.** San Francisco indie rock duo whose music blends African-influenced drumming with syncopated guitar rhythms. Opening act is **The Luyas,** a Montreal indie rock quartet fronted by vocalist Jessie Stein, who plays a 12-string electric zither. The band's instrumentation also includes French horn, multiple keyboards, drums, and percussion. Advance tickets $13 ($15 at the door). **Sept. 21: "Purple Hash Bash."** *All ages admitted.* Showcase of artists who record for the Farmington Hills–based hip-hop label Psychopathic Records. Headliner is **Potluck,** a Humboldt County (CA) hip-hop duo known for its syrupy beats, neck-snapping rhymes, blue-collar work ethic, and pro-pot point of view. Opening acts are the Watts (CA) R&B-inflected hip-hop MC **Glasses Malone,** hip-hop MC **Ajax,** and the Lansing hip-hop ensemble **Smokehouse Junkies.** Advance tickets: $10 ($15 at the door). 8 p.m.–midnight. **Sept. 22:** TBA. **Sept. 23: Chris Bathgate.** Talented local singer-songwriter with an acclaimed new CD, *Salt Year.* He writes heartfelt, poetic folk-rock story songs in a variety of moods. Opening acts TBA. **Sept. 24: "Nirvana Tribute."** Several local bands perform Nirvana songs, including the entirety of their landmark CD *Nevermind,* which was released 20 years ago today. **Sept. 27: Mutemath.** New Orleans alternative rock trio whose current show features tracks from its brand-new CD *Odd Soul.* Opening acts TBA. Advance tickets: $20. **Sept. 28: Grieves & Budo.** *All ages admitted.* Acclaimed Oakland (CA) hip-hop duo of MC Grieves and DJ Budo. Opening acts are **Prof,** a Minneapolis hip-hop MC, and **The MC Type,** a rapping hip-hop comic from Seattle. Advance tickets: $12 ($14 at the door). **Sept. 29:** TBA. **Sept. 30:** Benefit concert TBA.

Blue Tractor

207 E. Washington **222–4095**

This downtown tavern features live music Wed. 9:30 p.m.–12:30 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Wed. Open Mike.** All acoustic musicians and vocalists invited. Hosted by local singer-songwriter Zachariah Griffin.

The Circus

210 S. First St. **913–8890**

This 2nd-floor downtown club features live music on Wed. & occasional other nights 10 p.m.–2 a.m. DJ on Thurs. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. No cover, no dancing (unless otherwise noted). Also, live music or karaoke on Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. in the street-level **Millennium Club** or basement **Cavern Club** (cover with dancing in these clubs). Age 21 & older admitted on Wed. & Thurs., age 18 & older on Fri. & Sat. **Sept. 3: Killer Flamingos.** Rock 'n' roll covers and originals by this popular, veteran band from Dearborn. Cover, dancing. In the Millennium Club. **Sept. 7: Henhouse Prowlers.** Traditional bluegrass by this Chicago band whose songs touch on such classic bluegrass themes as love, loss, work, regret and death. **Sept. 14: Dragon Wagon.** Highly regarded local experimental acoustic roots-music sextet that calls its music "bluegrass folk-rock with a touch of Irish whiskey." **Sept. 21: Whistle Pigs.** Bluegrass-flavored alt-country Americana trio from Carbondale (IL) whose instrumentation features banjo, accordion, and upright bass. **Sept. 24: Killer Flamingos.** See above. In the Millennium Club. **Sept. 28: Dragon Wagon.** See above.

Conor O'Neill's

318 S. Main **665–2968**

Downtown Irish pub with live music Sun. 7:30–10 p.m. and Thurs. & Sat. 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m., and a DJ on Fri. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Karaoke on Sun., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Sun.: Traditional Irish Session.** All invited to join or listen to an instrumental jam session. Followed at 10 p.m. by karaoke. **Sept. 1: Lucas Paul Band.** Local quartet led by pop-rock singer-songwriter Paul. **Sept. 3: Red Swill.** Local classic rock jam band. **Sept. 8: Caribbean Connection.** Detroit reggae band. **Sept. 10:** No music. **Sept. 15: Park Side Wes.** Local blues-rock and funk cover trio. **Sept. 17: Michael May & the Messarounds.** Jazz-inflected blues and blues-rock by this veteran local quartet led by vocalist and blues harpist May. **Sept. 22: The Terraplanes.** See Live at PJ's. **Sept. 24: Lucas Paul Band.** See above. **Sept. 29: Mossy Moran.** Traditional singer from Ireland.

Crazy Wisdom Tea Room

114 S. Main **665–9468**

Tea room above Crazy Wisdom Bookstore features live music Thurs.–Sat., 8:30–10:30 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Sept. 1: Mike Vial.** Acoustic pop-rock singer-songwriter from Howell. **Sept. 2: Jen Sygit and Sam Corbin.** Double bill. Sygit is a Lansing singer-songwriter and guitarist known for her bluesy lyrics, down-home music, and sultry vocals, and Corbin is a Lansing pop-folk singer-songwriter whose influences range from Leonard Cohen to Bob Dylan. **Sept. 3: Alejandra O'Leary Band.** *See review, p. 50.* Rock 'n' roll band led by this local singer-songwriter, originally from Portland (ME), whose debut CD, *Nothing Out Loud,* has been described as "chock-full of uncomplicated pop songs that waver between 60s joie de vivre and a knowing Liz Phair vibe." Tonight she celebrates the release of her new CD, *Broken Mirror Baby.* **Sept. 8: Voodoo Lighthouse.** Local rock quintet that has a new CD, *Fight Forever.* **Sept. 9: Delta Twins.** Farmington blues-based Americana rock duo whose music has been described as "Tom Petty meets John Mayer at B.B. King's nightclub." **Sept. 10: Sarana Ver-Lin Myers & Billy Brandt.** This 2010 Detroit Music Award–winning folk-rock singer-songwriter duo performs a blend of Celtic and Americana music they call "Celticana." **Sept. 15: Nicholas Painter.** Local pop-folk singer-songwriter. **Sept. 16: Dan Hazlett.** This Detroit-area singer-songwriter and guitarist plays an eclectic mix of blues-, R&B-, folk-, and jazz-influenced originals on topics that range from the outlandish to the sublime. **Sept. 17: John Churchville.** Local tabla player, accompanied by several musician friends, who plays Indian classical, light classical, fusion, and folk music. **Sept. 22: Dan Henig.** Local introspective folk-rock singer-songwriter **Sept. 23: The Understorey.** Local acoustic folk-rock duo of Jessica and Matt McCumons. Opening act is **Jennifer Jones,** a local pop-folk singer-songwriter. **Sept. 24: The Hackwells.** Local acoustic trio, formerly known as Gather Round, whose original ballads draw on pop-rock, retro-country, and Americana influences. **Sept. 29: Dan Kennedy.** Veteran Detroit singer-songwriter. **Sept. 30: Stella!** All-star all-female Detroit-area roots-country quartet fronted by local singer-songwriter and guitarist Jo Serrapere and featuring 3 other songwriters: multi-instrumentalist Jen Sygit, fiddler Diana Ladio, and bassist Laura Ann Bates. They have a forthcoming debut CD, *Sorry Stella.*

Creekside Grill and Bar

5827 Jackson Rd. **827–2737**

The intimate basement bar in this restaurant in Scio Township features occasional live music. Cover, dancing. **Sept. 25: II-V-I Orchestra.** Veteran local big band, led by saxophonist David Swain, that plays late-1930s swing and 1940s R&B. With vocalists Jim Tarravantes and Patty O'Connor. 6:30–9 p.m.

Gandy Dancer

401 Depot **769–0592**

This restaurant in Ann Arbor's old train station features live jazz on the courtyard patio, Wed. 6–9 p.m., through Sept. 14. No cover, no dancing. **Sept. 7: Vincent Chandler Quintet.** Jazz ensemble led by veteran Detroit trombonist Chandler, a member of the Roy Hargrove Big Band. **Sept. 14: Pat Prouty Quartet.** Jazz quartet led by veteran Detroit-area composer-bassist Prouty.

Goodnite Gracie

301 W. Huron **623–1443**

Martini and cigar bar below Live at PJ's lounge. Live music Thurs. 9 p.m.–2 a.m. and live music or DJ Sat. 8:30 or 9 p.m.–2 a.m. & occasional other nights, and a reggae DJ on Fri. 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover (except Fri. happy hour), dancing. **Every Thurs.: Laith Al-Saadi Trio.** An eclectic mix of jazz, blues, R&B, Motown, and pop, including many originals, by a trio led by this local singer-guitarist. **Sept. 2: FUBAR.** 6-piece band led by guitarist Randy Tessier and featuring vocalist Sophia Hanifi. Their repertoire is an eclectic mix of originals by Hanifi and Tessier and covers of everyone from the Everly Brothers, the Kinks, and the Yardbirds to Miles Davis and Steve Earle. 6–9:30 p.m. **Sept. 3:** TBA. **Sept. 10: Third Coast Kings.** Local horn-driven retro funk band that recently released its debut 45 "Give Me Your Love" on the Italian funk label Record Kicks. 9 p.m.–2 a.m. **Sept. 17: Funktion.** Grand Rapids blues-funk band. 9 p.m.–2 a.m. **Sept. 24: Jeni Lee Richey & the Great Tribulation.** Classy local folk noir and neo-honky-tonk ensemble. Opening acts are **The Afternoon Round** (see Zingerman's) and **Ghost City Searchlight,** a Dearborn postpunk quartet whose music draws on Celtic and American folk idioms.

Guy Hollerin's

3600 Plymouth Rd. **769–9800**

The restaurant in the North Campus Holiday Inn features music on Sat. & occasional Fri., 8 p.m.–midnight. Cover, dancing. If tickets are available in advance, they are sold at the restaurant. **Sept. 3:** No music. **Sept. 10: Jimmy McCarty & Mystery Train.** Popular rockabilly and roots-rock band led by veteran Detroit guitarist McCarty. **Sept. 17: The Bluescasters.** Veteran local blues and blues-rock quartet. **Sept. 24: Chris Canas Blues Revolution.** Detroit blues band fronted by Canas, a blues vocalist and virtuoso guitarist.

The Habitat Lounge

3050 Jackson Rd. **665–3636**

The lounge at Weber's Inn features dance bands Tues.–Thurs., 8:45 p.m.–12:30 a.m., and Fri. & Sat., 8:45 p.m.–1:30 a.m. Also, DJ Mon., 7 p.m.–midnight, and solo pianists Tues.–Sun., 6–8:45 p.m. Dancing, no cover. **Sept. 1–3: JoyRide.** Popular Flint dance band. **Sept. 6:** No music. **Sept. 7 & 8: Herbie Russ.** Solo saxophonist. **Sept. 9 & 10: Dr. Smith.** Detroit classic rock quintet. **Sept. 13–15: Green-Eyed Soul.** Windsor pop trio fronted by vocalists Melissa Danese and Fallon Deluca. **Sept. 16 & 17: Remedy.** Detroit dance band. **Sept. 20–22: Slice.** East Lansing pop dance quartet. **Sept. 23 & 24: The Front Men.** New Detroit vintage rock band. **Sept. 27–29: Scottie Alexander.** Singer-pianist. **Sept. 30: Starfarm.** 80s covers by this East Lansing retro rock and pop quintet.

Live at PJ's

102 S. First St. **623–1443**

This lounge features live music Sun. 5–8:30 p.m., along with Fri. happy hour 6:30–9 p.m. Dance DJs (or occasional live music) Fri. & Sat. 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover (except happy hour), dancing. **Every Sun.: Phil Ogilvie's Rhythm Kings.** This local 10-piece big band is one of the few to specialize in the old-time big-band music of the late 1920s and early 1930s associated with Jelly Roll Morton and King Oliver. Arrangements by the renowned early-jazz pianist James Dapogny and tubaist Chris Smith. **Sept. 2: The Ones and Twos.** Stevie Wonder/Motown tribute band. 9 p.m.–2 a.m. **Sept. 9: Drivin' Sideways.** Veteran local band fueled by Pontiac Pete Ferguson's alternately soulful and ornery vocals. Their country-based repertoire still features lots of classic honky-tonk, but they also cover everyone from Chuck Berry and Johnny Burnette to the Beatles and James Brown.

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Jef Brannan
September 9 & 10
Guitar bangin - Joke Slingin
"Evening at the Improv"
SHOWTIME
"The Dirty Joke Show"

The Sklar Brothers
September 16 & 17

MTV NBC WB
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"Entourage" "Becker"
"Law & Order"
ESPN "Cheap Seats"
"Comedy Central Presents"
The movie "Wild Hogs"
"The Oblongs"
ESPN "SportsCenter"
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Kevin Zeoli
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Michael Malone
September 30
October 1

"The Bob & Tom Show"
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Music at Nightspots

With guitarist George Bedard, bassist Chris Goerke, drummer Mark Newbound, and keyboardist Jim King. 6–9:30 p.m. **Sept. 16: The Terraplanes.** Local band led by singer-guitarist Jerry Mack that plays a mix of houserocking blues, uptown swing, soulful R&B, and roots rock. 6–9:30 p.m. **Sept. 16: Dragon Wagon.** See Circus. Opening acts are **Sixteen More Miles,** a local alt-country band, and **October Babies,** a popular self-styled "upbeat global soul" pop-jazz jam quartet, led by the Ypsilanti husband-and-wife duo of Toko Shiiki-Santos and Erik Santos, whose songs are sung mostly in Japanese. 9:30 p.m.–12:30 a.m. **Sept. 23: Rubie & the Red Hots.** Rockabilly, blues, country, and rock 'n' roll by this local quintet led by guitarist David Swain and featuring vocalist Kathy Butler. 6–9:30 p.m. **Sept. 30: Drivin' Sideways.** See above. **Sept. 30: White Shag.** Detroit rock 'n' roll quartet. 9:30–11:30 p.m.

The Necto
516 E. Liberty **994–5436**

This popular dance club features local and national DJs 6 nights a week, Mon.–Sat., 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Also, occasional live shows. Cover, dancing. **Sept. 6: Avicii.** Celebrated Swedish electronica musician. **Sept. 8: MEDMA Presents Impulse!** The Michigan Electronic Dance Music Association's monthly showcase of progressive house, trance, and electronic dance music TBA. **Sept. 10: "Plastic Passion."** DJ Josh Burge hosts this monthly retro dance party with an eclectic mix of everything from New Wave, Britpop, and postpunk to acid house, goth rock, and industrial.

Old Town
122 W. Liberty **662–9291**

This downtown corner bar features live music Sun. & occasional other nights, 8–10 p.m. No dancing, no cover. The performers are usually accompanied by various drop-in friends. **Sept. 4: Ryan Racine.** Charismatic local alt-country honky-tonk and rockabilly singer-songwriter who's best known as the frontman of Lucky Haskins (when he was still a Community High student) and his current band, Gas for Less. **Sept. 11: The Vibratrons.** All-star band led by veteran local rocker Dan Mulholland, the charismatic former leader of the Watusis and several other great local rock 'n' roll bands. Its repertoire includes everything from garage rock and blues to country and folk, along with more ballads than Mulholland usually essays. With guitarist Brian Delaney, keyboardist Andy Adamson, bassist Jerry Hancock, and drummer Rich Dishman. **Sept. 18: Jud Branam & Kevin Brown.** Local alt-country duo, both Corndaddy singer-songwriters whose music mixes equal parts of Gram Parsons and Uncle Tupelo. **Sept. 25: Pete Siers Trio.** Mainstream jazz ensemble led by veteran local drummer Siers.

Oz's Music Environment
1920 Packard **662–8283**

This storefront next to Oz's music store features live music most Tues. 7:30–9:30 p.m. (unless otherwise noted). Cover by donation, no dancing. **Sept. 6: "Songwriters Open Mike."** All songwriters invited. Hosted by Jim Novak. **Sept. 27: "Ukulele Jam."** Musicians of all ability levels invited.

Passport
3776 S. State **222–1111**

This southside restaurant features live music Mon. & Thurs. 7–10 p.m. and occasional other nights. Also, dance DJs Wed. 5:30–9:30 p.m. & Fri. 8 p.m.–2 a.m., dance parties with live music or a DJ Sat. 8 p.m.–2 a.m., and ballroom dance lessons Sun. 5–9 p.m. Karaoke Tues. 8 p.m.–midnight. No cover, dancing. **Every Mon.: Open Mike.** All musicians invited. **Sept. 8:** Paul Keller Quartet. High-energy mainstream jazz by this local ensemble led by bassist Keller and featuring vocalist Sarah D'Angelo.

The Quarter Bistro
300 S. Maple **929–9200**

This west-side restaurant features live music Thurs. 6:30–9 p.m., Sat. 7:30–10 p.m., and occasional other nights. Also, a DJ on Fri., 6–11 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Sept. 1: Wayne Deloria.** Pop, rock, and country covers by this singer-guitarist. **Sept. 3: Jonathon Gillies.** Alternative rock singer-guitarist. **Sept. 8: Robin Horlock.** Northville pop-rock singer-songwriter. **Sept. 10: Dave Boutette.** Veteran local folk-rock singer-guitarist whose genial songs about the small ups and downs of ordinary life draw on a range of influences from Chuck Berry to Paul Westerberg. **Sept. 15: Jonathon Gillies.** See above. **Sept. 17: Paledave & Jenny Fair.** The local husband-and-wife duo of singer-songwriter Dave Buehrer and vocalist Jennifer Buehrer plays a mix of indie rock covers and originals. **Sept. 22: Frankie D'Angelo.** Acoustic pop-rock by this Detroit singer-songwriter. **Sept. 24: Chris Cranick.** Acoustic alternative-rock singer-songwriter from Hartland. **Sept. 29: Frankie D'Angelo.** See above.

Silvio's Organic Pizza
715 North University **214–6666**

This campus-area restaurant features live music Fri. 7–9 p.m., and occasional Sat. 7:30–10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Sept. 2: Vicki Dischler.** An eclectic mix of rock, pop, country, and folk by this local singer-guitarist. **Sept. 9:** TBA. **Sept. 16: Isosceles.** Versatile local acoustic trio that plays a mix of jazz, swing, country, pop, and folk. With vocalist Shekinah Errington, bassist Tim Berla, and guitarist Jim Cooney. **Sept. 23:** TBA. **Sept. 30: The Dellwoods.** Local jazz quintet.

Tap Room
201 W. Michigan
Ypsilanti **482–5320**

This popular downtown Ypsilanti tavern features live music most Wed. 7–11 p.m., Thurs. 8 p.m.–midnight, & Sat. 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m. Also, DJ with Latin dance music, Wed. 9 p.m.–1 a.m. No cover, dancing. **Every Wed.** (except Sept. 7)**: The Shelter Dogs.** Local self-styled "lounge-a-billy" trio that plays vintage swing, rockabilly, and blues. With upright bassist Todd Perkins, guitarist Pete Bullard, and drummer Tom Twiss. 7–11 p.m. **Every Thurs.: Electric Open Mike.** Hosted by **The Martindales,** a local band led by singer-guitarist Brian Brickley that plays blues and rock covers and originals. All electric musicians invited. **Sept. 3: Bull Halsey.** Popular Chelsea garage blues band. **Sept. 10: Alejandra O'Leary Band.** See Crazy Wisdom. **Sept. 17: & 24:** TBA.

Vinology
110 S. Main **222–9841**

This wine bar and restaurant features live jazz, Thurs. 9 p.m.–midnight, and occasional other nights. No cover, no dancing (unless otherwise noted). **Sept. 1: Doug Horn Trio.** 40s & 50s swing and bebop by a jazz ensemble led by local alto saxophonist Horn. **Sept. 8: Daniela Ruggieri Trio.** Jazz trio fronted by California vocalist Ruggieri and featuring Detroit pianist Gary Shunk. **Sept. 15: Gary Shunk Trio.** Jazz ensemble led by Shunk, a classically trained Detroit jazz pianist and keyboardist. One of 10 winners in *Jazziz* magazine's 1995 "Keyboards on Fire" contest, he plays with an energetic, electric verve. **Sept. 22: Nicole New Trio.** Jazz trio fonted by New, a Detroit vocalist known for her rich tone and rhythmic phrasing. **Sept. 28: Los Gatos.** Dancing (in the downstairs Bubble Room) to salsa music by this local Latin jazz band led by drummer Pete Siers. Also, salsa dance instruction. 8 p.m.–midnight. **Sept. 29: Paul Keller Quartet.** High-energy mainstream jazz by this local ensemble led by bassist Keller.

Wolverine State Brewing Co.
2019 W. Stadium **369–2990**

This west side brewpub features occasional live music. Cover, dancing. **Sept. 9: Doug Horn Trio.** See Vinology.

Woodruff's
36 E. Cross
Ypsilanti

This new club in Ypsilanti's Depot Town features live music Sun. & Thurs. 8–11 p.m., Tues. 7–10 p.m., and Mon., Wed., Fri., & Sat. 9:30 p.m.–2 a.m. Also, karaoke on Thurs. 11 p.m.–1 a.m. and DJ on Sun. & Tues. 11 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover (except Tues.), dancing. **Every Sun.: Dan Bennett Quartet.** Experimental jazz ensemble led by Nomo saxophonist Bennett. 8–11 p.m. **Every Sun.: Todd Osborne.** This Detroit-area electronic musician spins techno, electronica, funk, and soul records. 11 p.m.–2 a.m. **Every Mon.: Laith Al-Saadi.** See Black Pearl. **Every Tues.: "Acoustic Open Mike."** All acoustic musicians invited. Hosted by local singer-songwriter **Dave Boutette.** 7–10 p.m. **Every Tues.: "Absolute Beginners."** DJs Tim Sendra and Fred Thomas play 60s-style pop music. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. **Sept. 1: Scotty Karate.** One-man postpunk honky-tonk rock 'n' roll band from Chelsea. Opening act is Lord Vapid, a one-man rock 'n' roll band from Lansing. 8–11 p.m. **Sept. 2: Gravy.** Local 60s-style folk-rock quintet fronted by vocalist Laura Jacquez. Opening acts are **Deep Space Six,** a popular local Grateful Dead cover band, and **Incognito,** a local classic rock band fronted by vocalist Kim Vox. **Sept. 3: Lightning Love.** Local keyboard-driven minimalist pop trio. Opening acts are **Prussia,** a Detroit pop-soul trio, and **The Kickstand Band,** a Detroit rock 'n' roll trio. **Sept. 7: Alejandra O'Leary Band.** See Crazy Wisdom. Opening acts are the local postpunk pop-folk duo **Match by Match,** Redford postpunk folk-rock singer-songwriter **3773,** and the Detroit-area pop-rock band **10 Degrees above the Parallel. Sept. 8: Nightlife.** Local keyboard-based pop duo of Darin Rajabian and Caroline Myrick whose influences range from the Zombies to Prince. Opening acts are **The Saturday Giant,** the stage name of Columbus ambient pop musician Philip Cogley, along with the Detroit psychedelic pop band **Phantasmagoria** and Detroit electronica singer-songwriter **Deastro.** 8–11 p.m. **Sept. 9: Appleseed Collective.** Popular young local acoustic quartet whose music is an enchanting blend of lyric-based folk-rock with Dixieland and gypsy jazz rhythms and harmonies. Opening acts are **Lac La Belle,** a Detroit Western swing-based acoustic Americana trio led by singer-songwriter Jennie Knaggs, and **Patrick Herek,** a Chicago-based folk-rock singer-songwriter and pianist whose influences range from David Bowie and Jeff Buckley to Ben Folds. **Sept. 10: Blue Snaggletooth.** Local rock band that includes members of Mazinga and other area bands. Opening acts TBA. **Sept. 11:** TBA. **Sept. 15:** TBA. 8–11 p.m. **Sept. 16: Mike Hard.** Postpunk garage rock singer-songwriter best known as the former frontman of the God Bullies and Thrall. Opening acts are the local rock 'n' roll duo **Jehovah's Witness Protection Program,** the local rock band **Hole in the Sky,** and the Detroit hard-rock band **Waxgordon. Sept. 17: "Elbow Deep."** Drag show and gay and lesbian dance night hosted by Maxi and Jennifer of the House of Chanel, with a DJ TBA. **Sept. 21:** TBA. **Sept. 22: Err...** Ypsilanti noise-rock duo. Opening acts are **Zombie Jesus & the Chocolate Sunshine Band,** an Ypsilanti quartet that plays upbeat, melodic rock 'n' roll mixed with swinging country twang and hints of psychedelia, and **Gnome Village,** a Lansing experimental pop band. 8–11 p.m. **Sept. 23: Khalid Hanifi.** Seductive Beatlesesque postpunk powerpop by a quintet led by veteran local singer-songwriter Hanifi. Opening acts are **Red Haired Molly,** a local rock quartet, and **Charlie Dentel,** a local singer-songwriter whose repertoire includes soulful blues-, jazz-, and gospel-based pop originals and standards. **Sept. 24: Back Forty.** Local acoustic string jam quintet that plays a brand of twangy roots-folk music fused with elements of jazz and psychedelic rock that it calls "down-home funkgrass." Opening act is **Hullabaloo,** a local ska and 80s-style pop quintet. **Sept. 28:** TBA. **Sept. 29:** TBA. 8–11 p.m. **Sept. 30: Black Jake & the Carnies.** Popular Ypsilanti octet that calls its energetic, foot-stomping blend of punk, old-time music, and bluegrass "crabgrass." Tonight the band celebrates the release of its new CD, *Sundry Mayhems,* which according to *Deep Cutz* writer Jeff Milo features "blurring see-saw strings, a mean washboard, a wheezy accordion, angular, tinny banjos and mandolins and zingy, mercurial (yet melodious) lead vocals girded by poignant, rousing choruses (even some opera mixed in), at 0-60-and-back-again tempos." Opening act is **Dastardly,** a Chicago Americana rock sextet.

Zal Gaz Grotto
2070 W. Stadium **663–1202**

This Masonic social and service club hosts live music Mon. 8:15–11 p.m., Tues. 5:30–8:30 p.m., & occasional other nights. Cover, dancing. **Every Mon.** (beginning Sept. 12)**: Paul Keller Orchestra.** Award-winning 15-piece big band led by bassist Keller and featuring vocalist Sarah D'Angelo and occasional guest vocalists. **Every Tues.: Paul Klinger's Easy Street Jazz Band.** Dixieland and swing by this local ensemble led by saxophonist and trumpeter Klinger. **Sept. 17: Paul Keller & Friends.** Veteran local string bassist Keller leads a mini–big band in a variety of jazz styles. With trumpeter Paul Finkbeiner, saxophonist Ben Jansson, trombonist Terry Kimura, pianist Ellen Rowe, drummer Sean Dobbins and vocalist Sarah D'Angelo. 6:30–10 p.m. **Sept. 30: Sunny Wilkinson.** Nationally known straight-ahead jazz vocalist who performs bebop ballads and jazz standards. She is accompanied by the **Ellen Rowe Trio,** a jazz ensemble led by pianist Rowe, a U-M music professor. With bassist Paul Keller and drummer Sean Dobbins. 6:30–10 p.m.

Zingerman's Roadhouse
2501 Jackson **663–FOOD**

This west-side restaurant has live music on its outdoor patio on Wed. 6–9 p.m., through Sept. 28. No cover, dancing. **Sept. 7: Annie Capps.** Local singer-songwriter and electric guitarist who writes thoughtful, distinctively personal, warmly exuberant folk-rock songs that are both musically sophisticated and down-home. She's accompanied by her husband, guitarist **Rod Capps. Sept. 14:** No music. **Sept. 21: John Latini.** Acoustic rock-based originals by this veteran local rock 'n' roll singer-songwriter. **Sept. 28: The Afternoon Round.** Local Americana rock band. ■

September Events

We want to know about your event!

Please send a press release (no phone calls, please).

- **By email:** hinch@aaobserver.com
- **By phone:** 769–3175
- **By mail:** John Hinchey, Calendar Editor, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104
- **By fax:** 769–3375
- **After-hours drop box:** right side of the Observer's front door facing Catherine

What gets in?

We give priority to Ann Arbor events. Always include a contact person's telephone number. Please try to submit materials as early as possible; items submitted after the deadline (the tenth day of the preceding month) might not get in.

Next month's deadline:

All appropriate materials received by the tenth day of the month for the upcoming month will be used as space permits; materials submitted later might not get in (but will be added to arborweb).

arborweb:

An expanded, continually updated version of this calendar is available at **arborweb.com.** This calendar is updated daily. If you have an event not listed in the print calendar, or want to update a listed event, please send it and we'll post it on arborweb.

WARNING!

To save space, many recurrent events are noted only the first time they occur. This includes many weekly and biweekly events. To find a full list of events for the last Wednesday in the month, for example, readers should also check earlier Wednesday listings, especially the first Wednesday.

www.arborweb.com

1 THURSDAY

★**"Fall Songbird Migration in Nichols Arboretum": Washtenaw Audubon Society.** *Every Thurs., Sept. 1–Oct. 27.* WAS members lead a hike through the Arb to look for fall warblers and other southbound migrants. *8–11 a.m., meet in the cul-de-sac at the end of Riverview (off Geddes near the east end of Dow Field). Free. 677–3275.*

★**Michigan Marching Band Practice.** *Every Mon.–Sat.* The U-M's highly disciplined 200-plus-member marching band or sections thereof can be seen and heard practicing on Elbel Field. All are welcome to find a spot in the bleachers and get a sneak preview of upcoming halftime shows. *9:30–11 a.m. & 7:30–10 p.m. (Sept. 1), 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. & 7:30–9:30 p.m. (Sept. 2), 10 a.m.–noon (Sept. 3), 3–5 p.m. (Sept. 10), 7:30–9 a.m. (Sept. 17 & 24), 4:45–6:15 p.m. (every Mon.–Fri. beginning Sept. 5), Elbel Field, Hill at Division. Free. 764–0582.*

★**Older Adults Thursday: Jewish Community Center.** *Every Thurs. except Sept. 29.* Activities, primarily for seniors, begin at 10 a.m. with **"Energy Exercise"** ($4), a 60-minute exercise program led by Maria Farquhar. An 11 a.m. **Current Events** discussion group led by Heather Dombey is followed at noon by a homemade dairy lunch ($3 with reservation, $4 without reservation and for nonseniors) and at 1 p.m. by a cultural or educational program. *Sept. 1:* Temple Beth Emeth rabbi Robert Levy discusses his recent **sabbatical trip throughout the South.** *Sept. 8:* An **Ann Arbor Symphony** representative discusses (with musical examples) the 2011–2012 AASO season. *Sept. 15:* All invited to join a **singalong.** *Sept. 22:* Local beekeeper Jane Levy discusses **"Honey, Bees, and Beekeeping."** *10 a.m.–3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free (except as noted). 971–0990.*

Social Mah-Jongg: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Thurs.* All seniors age 50 & over invited to play this intricate game played with colorful tiles. *10 a.m.–noon, Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $2 (members, free). 794–6250.*

ACBL Duplicate Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Sun., Mon., Wed., & Thurs.* All seniors age 55 & over invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. Bring a partner. *Noon–3 p.m. (Wed. & Thurs.), 1:15 p.m. (Sun.), & 12:45–4 p.m. (Mon.),*

Canadian singer-songwriter Gordon Lightfoot performs at the Michigan Theater September 21.

FILMS

69 **Film Screenings** *John Hinchey & Katie Whitney*

GALLERIES

59 **Exhibit Openings** *Stephanie Douglass*

EVENTS REVIEWS

55 **The Fishtank Ensemble**
Brash Eastern European fun *James M. Manheim*

60 **Homegrown Festival**
40 varieties of local tomatoes? *Frances Kai-Hwa Wang*

74 **Mikrokolektyw**
Polish improvisers *Piotr Michalowski*

77 **Franz Wright**
Have I been left here? *Keith Taylor*

81 **Ghost Writers**
Michigan's lions and tigers and bears *Sally Mitani*

83 **The Wayward Sisters**
Finding beauty in plagues and jerks *James Leonard*

MUSIC AT NIGHTSPOTS

50 **Nightspots** *John Hinchey*
Alejandra O'Leary *Chris Berggren*

SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

University of Michigan Library
M Library

EXHIBITS

HATCHER LIBRARY, N. LOBBY CASES
Through Oct. 2
Ben Yomen: Labor Cartoons from the 1940s

HATCHER LIBRARY 7TH FLOOR, SPECIAL COLLECTIONS LIBRARY
Through Oct. 15
William Faulkner's Artifacts of Authorships

HATCHER LIBRARY GALLERY
Sept. 6 – Nov. 27
Pictures of Resistance: The Wartime Photographs of Jewish Partisan Faye Schulman

HATCHER LIBRARY, AUDUBON ROOM
Sept. 23 - Dec. 20
Narrative and Image: Visualizing the Mediterranean World

TAUBMAN HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARY
Aug. 15 - Sept. 30
From Max to Macs: A Retrospective of Medical Illustration Techniques from pioneering medical illustrators like Max Brödel to the digital tools of the twenty-first century; hands-on demos Thurs., Sept. 15, 6:00-8:00 pm

DUDERSTADT CENTER GALLERY
Sept. 8–29
Creating TEDxUofM: Encouraging Crazy Ideas; reception Fri., Sept. 9, 5:00-7:00 pm

EVENTS

VARIOUS LIBRARY LOCATIONS
Mon., Sept. 19 – Tues., Sept. 20
Michigan Libraries for Life Organ Donor Registration Drive Locations and Times: http://sites.google.com/site/michiganlibrariesforlife

HATCHER LIBRARY GALLERY
Thurs., Sept. 22
5:30-7:00 pm
The Man Who Never Died: The Life, Times, and Legacy of Joe Hill, American Labor Icon, with author William M. Adler

Tues., Sept. 27
4:00-5:30 pm
Giving It All Away: The Story of William W. Cook and His Michigan Law Quadrangle, with Director of the U-M Law Library and author Margaret Leary

Parking on central campus available in public structure at 650 S. Forest

All events are **free and open to the public.** More information at:

www.lib.umich.edu/events

September 2011 Event *highlights*
Ann Arbor District Library

Events will take place in the Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room, unless otherwise noted.

Margaret Noori

Tuesday **6**
6:00 - 8:00 pm

How To Apply for Federal Jobs • Carl G. Wells, Veterans Employment Coordinator, VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System, demystifies the federal job application process • MALLETTS CREEK BRANCH

Wednesday **7**
7:00 - 8:00 pm

Kerrytown BookFest 2011 Reception • Featuring author/poet **Margaret Noori** reading Native American poetry and a discussion of the BookFest exhibit at AADL, **Michigan Voices**

Karen Downing

Sunday **11**
1:00 - 3:00 pm

Comic Artists Forum • Guest artist **Jay P. Fosgitt**, creator of the graphic novels *Dead Duck* and *Little Green Men*, shares a slide show of his work and live sketching • GRADE 6 - ADULT

Monday **12**
10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Finding Grant Funding for Community Non-Profits • Karen Downing presents online resources at this hands-on workshop
ALSO OFFERED: Tues., Sept. **13**, 1:00 - 3:00 pm • REGISTRATION REQUIRED: AADL.ORG | 327.4555 | ANY LOCATION • PITTSFIELD BRANCH

Howard Markel

Photo © Joyce Ravid

Monday **12**
7:00 - 8:30 pm

Howard Markel, MD, PhD, Discusses His New Book, *An Anatomy of Addiction: Sigmund Freud, William Halsted, and the Miracle Drug Cocaine* • Dr. Markel, UM Professor and medical historian, discusses and signs his acclaimed book, for sale at the event

Tuesday **13**
7:00 - 8:30 pm

Film • *The Illusionist* (RATED PG) • Nominated for the 2010 Oscar for Best Animated Film, this 80-minute French film is the story of an aging magician and his fatherly love for a young girl

Wednesday **14**
7:00 - 8:00 pm

Concert • Rhythms of Cuba with Tumbao Bravo • Experience the authentic rhythms of Cuba with this award-winning band

Monday **19**
7:00 - 8:30 pm

Charles M. Butter, UM Professor Emeritus, discusses **Art and the Brain**, and his new book, ***Crossing Cultural Borders: Universals in Art and Their Biological Roots***

Todd Arnedt

Tuesday **20**
7:00 - 8:30 pm

Bright Nights™ Community Forum • Sleep and Depression: Connections From Adolescence Through Adulthood
J. Todd Arnedt, PhD, Director of the Behavioral Sleep Medicine Program, UM, discusses the interaction of sleep and depression and the latest research, then leads a panel discussion of experts

Thursday **22**
6:00 - 8:30 pm

Film & Discussion • *Blueprint America: Beyond the Motor City* (NOT RATED) • A look at what transportation in America could be in the future, and why Detroit could be a likely starting point for reform • DT 4TH FLOOR MEETING ROOM • GRADE 9 - ADULT

Kevin Collins

Thursday **22**
7:00 - 8:30 pm

Rebecca Lambers: Couturiere, Fashion Designer and Exclusive Dressmaker • Learn about the world of high fashion as live models display Rebecca's newest creations • GRADE 9 - ADULT

Sunday **25**
2:00 - 3:00 pm

Concert • African Drum Music with Musician Kevin Collins
MALLETTS CREEK BRANCH • ALL AGES

Monday **26**
7:00 - 8:45 pm

Yoga for Women Experiencing Perimenopause and Menopause
Victoria Duranona demonstrates Kundalini yoga to help guide participants through the cycles of life • MALLETTS CREEK BRANCH

Ben Jansson

Tuesday **27**
7:00 - 8:30 pm

Banned Books Week Film • *Shouting Fire: Stories From the Edge of Free Speech* (NOT RATED) • An examination of the balancing act between protecting civil liberties and national security

Thursday **29**
7:00 - 8:30 pm

Concert • The Ben Jansson Quartet Plays the Music of Thelonious Monk • Enjoy an evening of jazz

Friday **30**
7:00 - 8:30 pm

Matt Feazell: Comics to Screenplay • Hear how Matt adapted his comic strip, *The Amazing Cynicalman*, into a screenplay—now a soon-to-be-released film • GRADE 9 - ADULT

For more information, call 327.4200 or visit our website at *aadl.org*

Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $7 (members, $6). 794–6250.

76th Annual Saline Community Fair. *Aug. 30–Sept. 4.* This old-fashioned community fair features agricultural and craft exhibits, rides (Aug. 31–Sept. 3), and a variety of special events, including a **parade** (Sept. 3, noon in downtown Saline), the **Miss Saline pageant** (Aug. 30, 8 p.m.), and more. Rides run Wed.–Sat. Full schedule available at salinefair.org/events.htm. *Noon–dusk (Aug. 30) & 9 a.m.–late evening (Aug. 31–Sept. 4), Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd., Saline. Cost TBA. 668–0776.*

"Rush Hour Relief": Cranbrook Whole Foods Market. *Every Thurs.* Whole Foods staffers discuss wine. Tastings and small plates of food. Topics: **"Medal Winning Michigan Wines"** (Sept. 1), **eco-friendly wines** (Sept. 8), **Italian white wines** (Sept. 15), **Washington state reds** (Sept. 22), and **Argentinean red wines** (Sept. 29). Also, Michigan beer tastings (price varies) at 5 p.m. with representatives of a brewer TBA (Sept. 2) and **Wolverine State Brewing Company** (Sept. 16). *5–8:30 p.m., Whole Foods wine bar, 990 W. Eisenhower Pkwy., Cranbrook Village shopping center. $17. 997–7500.*

Magic: The Gathering Tournament: Get Your Game On. *Every Sun. & Tues.–Fri.* All invited to compete in tournaments of this popular collectible card game using standard constructed (Sun. & Thurs.), Elder Dragon Highlander (Tues.), Legacy (Wed.), and booster draft (Fri.) decks. Prizes. Bring your own cards (except Fri.). *6 p.m. (Tues.–Fri.) & 1 p.m. (Sun.), Get Your Game On, 310 S. State. $5 (Tues., free; Fri., $15 includes cards). 786–3746.*

★**Group Ride: Velo Club.** *Sept. 1 & 8.* Cyclists invited to join club members on a fast-paced ride, 40–60 miles. *6–8 p.m., meet at Forsythe Middle School, 1655 Newport. Free. aavc.org.*

★**"Thursday Evening Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Thurs.* Fast/moderate-paced 25-mile and slow-paced 15-mile rides around northeast Ann Arbor that include some good chances to improve your climbing skills. On Sept. 8 only (weather permitting): **"Moonshadow Ride"** *(10 p.m., east end of Mitchell Field parking lot, Fuller Rd.),* slow-, moderate-, and fast-paced rides, 8–24 miles (424–2802), along the Gallup Park pathway. *6:15 p.m., meet at the Fuller Pool parking lot, Fuller Rd. Free. 996–9122 (longer ride), 662–0205 (slower ride).*

★**Ann Arbor Go Club.** *Every Sun. & Thurs.* Players of all skill levels invited to play what's regarded as the world's most difficult board game. No partner necessary. Boards and stones provided. *7 p.m.–midnight (Thurs.) & 1–6 p.m. (Sun.), Espresso Royale, 322 S. State. Free. 417–5547.*

ACBL Bridge: Ann Arbor City Club. *Every Thurs.* All invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. No partner required. *7 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. $5. 761–6691.*

Euchre Night: Out Loud Chorus Fundraiser. All invited to compete in a euchre tournament. *7 p.m., CUBS' AC in Colonial Lanes, 1950 South Industrial. $10. 973–6084, 663–0036.*

★**Annual Members Show and Tell: Huron Hills Lapidary Society.** Club members show and discuss choice specimens from summer collecting. Nonmembers welcome. *7 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church social hall, 900 S. Seventh St. Free. 665–5574.*

"(un)Corked—Excursion: Pinot Noir!": The Produce Station. Tastings of 5 different Pinots from renowned regions around the world, including California, Oregon, and the grape's original home in France. *7:30–8:30 p.m., Alley Bar, 112 W. Liberty. $10. Reservations required by emailing producestation@producestation.com. 663–7848.*

★**Wade Reed Piano Trio: EMU Music Department.** This trio featuring EMU cello professor Robert Reed, violinist David Reed, and pianist Uel Wade performs works by Beethoven, Haydn, the contemporary Czech composer Tomas Svoboda, and the 20th-century English composer Rebecca Clarke. *8 p.m., EMU Alexander Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

"In a Word": New Theatre Project Summer New Work Series. U-M Residential College drama teacher Kate Mendeloff directs a staged reading of the young San Francisco playwright Lauren Yee's lyrical absurdist drama about a woman haunted by the mysterious disappearance of her 8-year-old son 2 years earlier. *8 p.m., Mix Performance Space, 130 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti. $2–$12 as determined by a roll of the dice. 645–9776.*

"Marie Antoinette: The Color of Flesh": Performance Network Professional Season. Extended through Sept 1–4. *8 p.m. (Sept. 1–3) & 2 p.m. (Sept. 4), Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. Various prices. In advance at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the door. Reservations: 663–0681; phone charge: 663–0696.*

"Consider the Oyster": Purple Rose Theatre Company. *Every Wed.–Sun., June 16–Sept. 3.* Guy

Gypsy music

The Fishtank Ensemble

Brash Eastern European fun

The Fishtank Ensemble takes its name from a club called the Fishtank in Oakland, California. When they come to the Ark September 1 (see Nightspots), they'll be bringing a style of music that hasn't been heard much in Ann Arbor, although examples occur in the songs of the unclassifiable Orpheum Bell and in the playlists of Yalcin Yanikoglu's fabulous *Dromedary Express* show on WCBN-FM. It goes by the name of Gypsy music, but that name denotes something with at least three separate stages of development, and it's the most recent stage that we haven't seen much of until now.

The first stage is the traditional music of the Romani people, also known as Gypsies, which absorbed influences from the countries where the Romani lived. The second is a version of that music developed for use in the coffeehouses of Vienna and other Central European centers, inflecting a small string ensemble with Romani scales and playing techniques. Finally there's a line of essentially Western styles that have been given a strong Gypsy flavor: first jazz, in the music of Django Reinhardt and his followers, then more recently, pop, rock, and punk.

Fishtank, as the group is called, draws liberally on all the variants of this latest stage. The band consists of players from all over the U.S. and European maps who mix up and speed up the music their ancestors made in old Vienna. Much of their music is propelled by a truly infectious slap bass player. With the addition of a female vocalist, Ursula Knudson, who can handle everything from the little-girl delivery of contemporary dance pop to operatic flights, they bring a large range of music into the Gypsy orbit. Their latest album, *Woman in Sin,* includes Gypsy takes on rhythm and blues (Little Willie John's much-covered "Fever"), flamenco, and a high-speed collision of tango and Serbian dance in "Opa Opa." Their earlier *Samurai over Serbia* album added yet more exotic elements to the mix.

But it's energy, not stylistic pastiche, that's most characteristic of this hugely enjoyable band. This music is a great deal of brash fun, and Fishtank has been gaining popularity. High-energy Gypsy-flavored modern styles have been common for a few years in New York, and more recently on the West Coast. Now they're here, and the Fishtank Ensemble's show ought to bring some interesting fans out of their corners.

—James M. Manheim

Sanville directs the world premiere of David MacGregor's comedy about a Detroit Lions fan who impulsively proposes to the love of his life. When she joyously accepts, he trips over a coffee table and sets off a cascade of hilarious and startling events. Cast: Matthew David, Stacie Hadgikosti, Sarab Kamoo, Michael Brian Ogden, and Rhiannon Ragland. *8 p.m. Purple Rose Theatre, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Tickets $25 (Wed. & Thurs.), $35 (Fri. eves. & weekend matinees), & $40 (Sat. eves.) in advance at purplerosetheatre.org, and by phone. 433–7673.*

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Every Thurs.* Performances by up to 12 aspiring area stand-up comics. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. $5 in advance and at the door. 996–9080.*

2 FRIDAY

★**"Whitmore Lake Coffee Break": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Fri.* Slow-paced 20-mile ride to the Coney Island in Whitmore Lake. *9 a.m., Olson Park, Dhu Varren at Pontiac Trail. Free. 663–4498.*

★**"Music in the Park": Herb David Guitar Studio.** *Daily except Thurs. through Oct. 31.* A variety of local performers TBA. *Noon–2 p.m., Liberty Plaza, E. Liberty at S. Division. Free. 665–8001.*

★**Bridge: U-M Turner Senior Resource Center.** *Every Mon. & Fri. except Sept. 5.* All seniors invited to play bridge. Refreshments. *1–4 p.m., Turner, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

★**"Seeing the Elephant: Female Soldiers and Spies in the Civil War": University Living Cultural Center.** Talk by retired Saline High School English and history teacher Susan Nenadic. *2:30–3:30 p.m., University Living, 2865 S. Main. Free. Reservations required. 669–3030, ext. 233.*

Dances of Universal Peace (Sufi Dancing). All invited to join in song, chant, and circle dances in joyous affirmation of the unity of the world's spiritual traditions. *7–9 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill. $5 requested donation. 332–7964.*

★**"Friday Night Live": Mark's Carts Courtyard.** *Every Fri.* With different local musicians each week. Weather permitting. *Sept. 2:* **It Takes Two to Cocceck** (7–8 p.m.), a trombone-percussion duo that plays Balkan music, and **Charlie Slick & the Thunda Claps** (8–9 p.m.), a local electronic pop dance band. *Sept. 9:* **Ryan Shea & the Courtyard Quartet,** a local jazz ensemble led by Community High guitarist Shea. *Sept. 16:* **The Understorey,** a local acoustic folk-rock duo. *Sept. 23:* **Me & Ryan,** a local guitar-and-ukulele folk-rock duo. *Sept. 30:* **Purple Green Flavor,** a West African–style percussion ensemble. *7–9 p.m., Mark's Carts, 211 W. Washington. Free. 224–8859.*

"Twelfth Night": Blackbird Theatre Shakespeare West. *Every Fri. & Sat., Aug. 19–Sept. 3.* Blackbird continues its summer-long series of West Park Shakespeare productions with director Barton Bund's modern twist on Shakespeare's comedy of mistaken identities and misplaced affections. It's the Summer of Love, and Viola washes up on the shores of Illyria, a remote island paradise with a folk festival. To infiltrate the inner workings of the festival, she cuts her hair, picks up a guitar and harmonica, and joins the fray of lascivious Bohemians, rock stars, and bikers caught up in the wild excesses of love, revenge, and plotting. After several gender-bending plot twists, everyone eventually snaps back into place, albeit with a variety of delightful and surprising differences. Folk music, though, is never quite the same. Cast: Linda Rabin Hammell, Victoria Gilbert, Sean Sabo, Dan Johnson, Dana Sutton, and others. *7 p.m., West Park Band Shell. Tickets $25 (seniors, $20; students, $10) in advance at blackbirdtheatre.org and at the gate. 332–3848.*

★**U-M Men's Soccer vs. Butler.** The U-M also has matches this month against **Northern Illinois** (Sept. 4, 2:30 p.m.), **Marshall** (Sept. 9, 5 p.m.), **Georgetown** (Sept. 11, 2 p.m.), and **Marquette** (Sept. 18, 2 p.m.). *7:30 p.m., U-M Soccer Field, 2250 S. State. Free. 763–2159.*

"Consider the Oyster": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Steve Bills: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Sept. 2 & 3.* This up-and-coming Detroit-area comic is known for his goofy, nervously energetic observational humor. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 & 10:30 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). $10 reserved seating in advance, $12 general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

Swing Dance Party: Ann Arbor Swing Dance Association/Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. *Every Fri.* Lindy hop, East Coast swing, Charleston, blues, and Balboa dancing to music spun by a DJ. No partner needed. Preceded at 8 p.m. by beginning lessons. *9 p.m.–midnight, Dakota Bldg., 1785 W. Stadium. $5 (includes lessons; students with ID, $3). 417–9857.*

3 SATURDAY

Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretive Nature Programs. *Sept. 3, 10, & 17.* Programs presented by Hudson Mills naturalist Jennifer Hollenbeck. *Sept. 3 (8 a.m.):* **"Bird Hike."** Bring binoculars and a field guide. $3. *Sept. 10 (11 a.m.):* **"Bugs and Butterflies Hunt."** Hike for kids and their parents to hunt for and learn about the park's insects and butterflies. $3. *Sept. 17 (6:30 p.m.):* **"Calling All Owls."** A hike through the woods to call owls, preceded by a slide-illustrated talk. $5 (kids, $3). *Various times, Hudson Mills activity center, 8801 North Territorial Rd., Dexter. Various costs. Preregistration required. $5 vehicle entrance fee. 426–8211.*

★**"Democratic Ride": Velo Club.** *Every Sat. & Sun.* A ride of 50–70 miles with distance and pace (usually fast) determined by the assembled riders. *9 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. aavc.org.*

★**"Dexter Breakfast Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Sat.* Beginner-friendly slow-paced (22 miles) and moderate/fast-paced (30–80 miles) round-trip rides to the Dexter Bakery. *Note:* Riders should be prepared to take care of themselves on all AABTS rides. Carry a water bottle, a spare tire or tube, a pump, a cell phone, and snacks. *9 a.m., meet at either Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St., or at Barton Park, Huron River Dr. Free. 994–6340 (Sept. 3 ride), 483–0448 (Sept. 10), 761–1147 (Sept. 17), 996–4985 (Sept. 24).*

23nd Annual Great Green Yard Sale: Zen Buddhist Temple. *Sept. 3–5.* A recycler's bonanza, this popular 3-day sale includes a wide range of donated items (books, dishes, furniture, plants, etc., but no clothes) and discarded items scavenged from local streets and from landlords remodeling their apartments. These include chairs, sofas, desks, dressers, kitchen tables, lamps, drapes, curtains, and more—all cleaned and repaired by Zen Buddhist Temple staff and volunteers. *Note:* No early sales. *9 a.m.–5 p.m. (Sept. 3 & 5) & noon–5 p.m. (Sept. 4), Zen Buddhist Temple, 1214 Packard at Wells. Free admission. 761–6520.*

★**"Sign Language for Infants and Toddlers": Ann Arbor District Library.** Kathy Brady presents a program of songs, games, and other activities for infants and toddlers (accompanied by a parent) to introduce them to the Signing Smart method of American Sign Language. *10:30–11 a.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–8301.*

★**Children's Storytime: Barnes & Noble.** *Every Sat.* Storytelling programs and occasional craft activities for kids. *11 a.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

U-M Exhibit Museum Planetarium. *Every Sat. & Sun.* Two different audiovisual planetarium shows. ***The Sky Tonight*** (11:30 a.m. Sat. & 1:30 p.m. both days) is an exploration of the current night sky. ***The Little Star That Could*** (2:30 p.m. Sat.) is about an average yellow star on a search for a planet of its own to warm who meets other stars on the way and learns about the Solar System. ***Black Holes: The Other Side of Infinity*** (2:30 p.m. Sun.) is an animated show that begins with the formation of the early Universe and the birth and death of stars and concludes with a simulated flight to a supermassive black hole lurking at the center of the Milky Way. *11:30 a.m. and 1:30 & 2:30 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. $5. 764–0478.*

★**Labor Day Weekend Festival: Old St. Patrick's Church.** *Sept. 3 & 4.* A popular community event offering a petting zoo, face painting, a rock-climbing wall, bungee jumping, games, and other kids activities, along with a bingo tent (1–8 p.m.), a Las Vegas gambling tent (2–11 p.m.), a country store, and more. *Sept. 3:* Pulled pork dinner (noon until gone), line dancing (5–6:30 p.m.), and the versatile rock, country, and R&B dance band **Paradise.** *Sept. 4:* Ron's BBQ **chicken dinner** (noon until gone), **Corvette Club** car show (noon–3 p.m.), **Kielbasa Kings** polka band (2–6 p.m.), and dancing to the local roots-rock quartet **Billy Mack & the Juke Joint Johnnies** (7–11 p.m.). *Noon–11 p.m., Old St. Pat's fairgrounds, 5671 Whitmore Lake Rd. at Northfield Church Rd. (3 miles north of Ann Arbor). Free admission. 662–8141.*

"Professor Ray's Everyday Science": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. *Sept. 3, 4, 24, & 25.* Museum staff give family-friendly science demos. *Sept. 3 & 4:* **"Air Apparent"** includes experiments with air pressure, from crushing a can to levitating objects. *Sept. 24 & 25:* **"Luminosity"** features experiments with light, such as making a dill pickle light up. *1 & 3 p.m., AAHOM, 220 E. Ann. $9 regular admission (members & infants, free). 995–5439.*

★**Ann Arbor Juggling Arts Club.** *Every Sat.* All invited to practice their juggling skills. Beginners

ALL NEW INVENTORY

Fall Opening!

Friday, Sept. 16, 6 to 8 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 17, 10 to 4
Sunday, Sept. 18, 1 to 4

Friends of the Ann Arbor District Library

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343 S. Fifth Ave., Ann Arbor
734-302-7774
faadl.org

Open Weekends
10-4 Saturday & 1- 4 Sunday

GERALD R. FORD PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY

THE WHITE HOUSE MESSAGE MACHINE:
HOW IT SPINS FASTER THAN EVER

STEVEN THOMMA

Thursday, September 15
7:30 p.m.

Join Steven Thomma, White House Correspondent for the *McClatchy Newspapers*' Washington Bureau, as he provides his keen insight and perspective on the ever-changing ways the White House uses technology and media to tell its story to the public.

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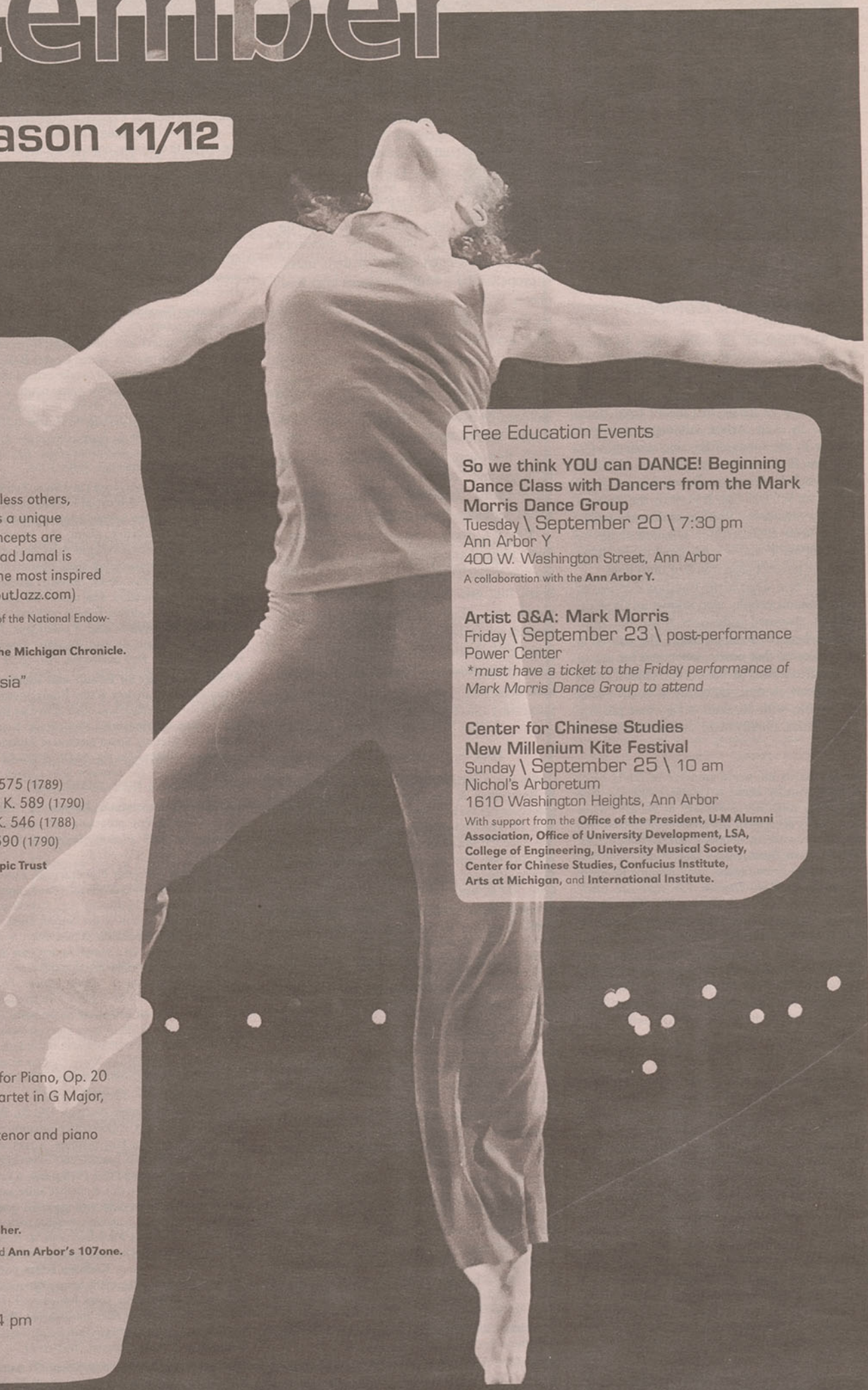

An Evening with Ahmad Jamal

Ahmad Jamal piano
James Cammack bass
Herlin Riley drums
Manolo Badrena percussion
Saturday \ September 17 \ 8 pm
Hill Auditorium

A pivotal influence on Miles Davis and countless others, NEA Jazz Master Ahmad Jamal incorporates a unique sense of space in his music – his musical concepts are exciting while confidently understated. "Ahmad Jamal is not just a living legend of jazz; he is one of the most inspired and inspiring artists in music today." (AllAboutJazz.com)

Funded in part by **NEA Jazz Masters Live**, a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest.

Media Partners **WEMU 89.1 FM, Metro Times, and The Michigan Chronicle.**

Mozart's Late Quartets: "King of Prussia"

Emerson String Quartet
Sunday \ September 18 \ 4 pm
Rackham Auditorium

PROGRAM

Mozart	Quartet No. 21 in D Major, K. 575 (1789)
Mozart	Quartet No. 22 in B-flat Major, K. 589 (1790)
Mozart	Adagio and Fugue in c minor, K. 546 (1788)
Mozart	Quartet No. 23 in F Major, K. 590 (1790)

Sponsored by **Linda and Maurice Binkow Philanthropic Trust**

Retirement Income Solutions, Inc.
"Helping to grow and preserve your wealth"

Media Partner **WGTE 91.3 FM.**

Mark Morris Dance Group

Mark Morris artistic director
Friday \ September 23 \ 8 pm
Saturday \ September 24 \ 8 pm
Power Center

PROGRAM

Excursions (2008)	Barber's Excursions for Piano, Op. 20
Festival Dance (2011)	Hummel's Piano Quartet in G Major, Op. posth. 4
Socrates (2010)	Satie's *Socrates* for tenor and piano

Sponsored by
University of Michigan Health System

The Saturday performance is co-sponsored by **Richard and Linda Greene** and **Ken and Penny Fischer.**

Media Partners **Between the Lines, Metro Times,** and **Ann Arbor's 107one.**

One-Hour Family Performance!

Dan Zanes & Friends
Sunday \ September 25 \ 1 pm & 4 pm
Power Center

Sponsored by **Rachel Bendit and Mark Bernstein.**

Free Education Events

So we think YOU can DANCE! Beginning Dance Class with Dancers from the Mark Morris Dance Group
Tuesday \ September 20 \ 7:30 pm
Ann Arbor Y
400 W. Washington Street, Ann Arbor
A collaboration with the **Ann Arbor Y.**

Artist Q&A: Mark Morris
Friday \ September 23 \ post-performance
Power Center
**must have a ticket to the Friday performance of Mark Morris Dance Group to attend*

Center for Chinese Studies New Millenium Kite Festival
Sunday \ September 25 \ 10 am
Nichol's Arboretum
1610 Washington Heights, Ann Arbor
With support from the **Office of the President, U-M Alumni Association, Office of University Development, LSA, College of Engineering, University Musical Society, Center for Chinese Studies, Confucius Institute, Arts at Michigan,** and **International Institute.**

University Musical Society
ums

Call or click for tickets!
734.764.2538 \ www.ums.org
Hours: Mon-Fri: 9 am to 5 pm, Sat: 10 am to 1 pm.

welcome. Indoor location TBA in case of inclement weather. *2–4 p.m., U-M Diag. Free. 761–1115.*

★Pittsfield Open Band: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. *Sept. 3 & 17.* All musicians invited for a contra dance music open jam. Bring Judi Morningstar's *The Ruffwater Fakebook,* Susan Songer's *The Portland Collection,* and Bill Matthiesen's *The Waltz Book* if you have them. *3–6 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. Free. 994–9307.*

U-M Football vs. WMU. *3:30 p.m., Michigan Stadium. $70. 764–0247.*

★Kids Open Stage: Oz's Music Environment. Kids of all ages and musical abilities are invited to play, sing, or just observe. Preceded at 3 p.m. by a **kids drum circle** ($10) hosted by Oz's owner Steve Osburn. Drums provided. *4–5 p.m., Oz's, 1920 Packard. Free; donations welcome. 662–8283.*

"Twelfth Night": Blackbird Theatre Shakespeare West. See 2 Friday. 7 p.m.

"Drum 4 Wellness Circle": Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. All invited to join a drum circle. Bring a drum or use one provided. *7:30–9 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. $5 suggested donation. 480–1219.*

★University Lowbrow Astronomers. *Sept. 3 & 24.* A chance to join local astronomy buffs for a look at the sky through Peach Mountain Observatory's huge, 24-inch McMath telescope and other instruments. Participants encouraged to bring their own telescopes. Visitors must turn off all electronic equipment (car radios, transmitters, phones, etc.) at the observatory entrance. Program canceled if sky is overcast at sunset or if the weather is extremely inclement. *8 p.m.–12:30 a.m. or as long as the sky remains clear, Peach Mountain Observatory, North Territorial Rd. (about 1 1/4 miles west of Hudson Mills Metropark), Dexter. Free. 332–9132.*

1st Saturday Contra: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Caller Carol Jacobs with live music by Golden Griffon Stringtet. All dances taught; no partner needed. Bring flat, smooth-sole shoes. *8–11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). $10 (members, $9; students, $5). 769–1052.*

"Milonga Picante": U-M Michigan Argentine Tango Club. *Sept. 3 & 17.* Tango dancing to music spun by a DJ. *Note:* People not affiliated with the U-M must arrive before 9 p.m. *8 p.m.–midnight, Michigan Union Anderson Room. $10 (members, $5). umich.edu/~umtango.*

"Consider the Oyster": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

Steve Bills: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 2 Friday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

"Serious about Salsa" Latin Dance Party: danceRevolution Dance Studio. *Sept. 3 & 17.* High-energy dance party with salsa, merengue, bachata, and cha-cha dancing to music spun by a DJ. No partner necessary. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., Phoenix Center, 200 S. Main (above Elmo's). $5. (313) 808–0358.*

4 SUNDAY

★Sunday Rides: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. *Every Sun. Sept. 4:* **"Democratic Ride,"** a ride whose pace and destination are determined by the assembled riders. *Sept. 11:* **"Zukey Lake Tavern Brunch Ride,"** fast/moderate-paced 69-mile (996–8079) and slow-paced 40-mile (429–3559) ride to Zukey Lake Tavern in Pinckney for brunch. *Sept. 18:* **"Hathaway House Ride,"** a fast-paced 90-mile ride (426–4989) to Blissfield for brunch at the historic Hathaway House restaurant. *Sept. 25:* **"Adrian Mural Ride,"** a fast-paced 80-mile ride (645–5840) to Adrian for brunch, along with a chance to view 4 Mexican-flavored murals on the route home. *9 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 904–6431.*

★"Buddhism": Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. *Every Sun. beginning Sept. 11.* Talk by **Gehlek Rimpoche,** an incarnate lama from Tibet who lives in Ann Arbor, or one of his students. *Sept. 11:* **"Ethical Life."** *Sept. 18:* **"Difficult People, Difficult Times, and the Courage of Love."** *Sept. 25:* **"Taking the Reins: Living Authentically."** *10–11 a.m., Jewel Heart Center, 1129 Oak Valley Dr. (between Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. & Ellsworth). Free. 994–3387.*

★Mature Singles: First Presbyterian Church. *Every Sun.* A weekly program open to all single adults interested in contemporary Christian topics, new ideas, personal growth, and social and physical activities. *Sept. 4:* showing of part 3 of ***Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory,*** an Oxford University Press/Gateways Films documentary about the American Evangelical movement. *Sept. 11:* Sharon Sprague shares memories of **international trips** she has taken. *Sept. 25:* **potluck and planning meeting.** *Sept. 18:* Laura Berg plays the DVD **"The Book of Judges, Part 1,"** an episode from the Teaching Company series on the Old Testament. *11 a.m., First Presbyterian Church Curtis Room, 1432 Washtenaw. Free. 662–4466, ext. 43.*

★"International Community Carnival": Muslim Community Association of Ann Arbor. All invited to this family-friendly carnival that includes a baseball throw, duck pond, bean bag toss, jump house, cake walk, sack race, and other activities. Also, face painting and henna tattoos. Food available from area restaurants. *11 a.m.–7 p.m. Southeast Area Park, Ellsworth at Platt. Free admission. 665–6772.*

★H.A.C. Ultimate. *Every Sun.* All invited to a very relaxed pickup game of this spirited team sport played with a flying disc. *Note:* Overly competitive players are politely asked to leave. *11 a.m., Mitchell Field, Fuller Rd. Free. 846–9418.*

★"Beth Israel Fun Fair": Beth Israel Congregation. All invited to this outdoor fair that features a bounce house, Israeli dancing, a cupcake walk, caricatures, face painting, lawn relays, and more. Snow cones. Hot dog lunch available for $3.50. Rain or shine. *11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m., Beth Israel Congregation, 2000 Washtenaw. Free. 665–9897.*

Contact Improv. *Every Sun.* All invited to try this interactive, free-form dance style that involves a rolling point of contact between two or more people through which dancers give and share weight. It is somewhere between tango, modern dance, aikido, wrestling, gymnastics, and none of the above, and usually takes place without music. People do contact improv in any combination of genders, and there are no steps. No partner required; beginners welcome. Followed by discussion and socializing. *1–3 p.m., Phoenix Center, 200 S. Main (above Elmo's). $5–$10 sliding scale based on ability to pay. 604–4416.*

★"Art as Experience": UMMA. *Every Sun.* Docent-led tour, with audience participation, of highlights of UMMA collections. *1 p.m. UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 763–UMMA.*

"Canning Tomatoes": Preserving Traditions. Hands-on program led by club members. Bring about 2 pounds of ripe tomatoes and a pint-sized canning jar with band and a new lid. *2–4:30 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). $5. Preregistration required by emailing preservetrad@gmail.com. 997–8844.*

★"Multiple Impressions: Contemporary Chinese Woodblock Prints": UMMA. *Every Sun.* Docent-led tour of the current exhibit. *2 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 763–UMMA.*

★"Dancing in the Streets": Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Dance demos and various kinds of traditional dancing with live music on 4 stages. Also, kids activities, including **maypole dancing** (4 p.m.), the popular "instrument petting zoo," and more. *Main north of Washington:* **International Folk Dancing**, Cajun, international, Middle Eastern, and belly dancing. *Main between Washington & Liberty:* Concert sets by local singer-songwriter **Laz Slomovits & Friends,** the local acoustic duo **Katseye,** the local folk-rock singer-songwriter duo **Annie & Rod Capps,** and the folk duo **Bruce Sagan & Brad Battey.** *Washington west of Main:* **swing** dancing to the veteran local big band **II-V-I Orchestra** and the local jazz ensemble **Five Miles More** (5:50 p.m.). *Washington east of Main:* a **family dance,** a **contra dance,** and **Scottish and English country dancing.** *2–6:30 p.m., downtown Main St. area. Free. 769–1052.*

★Pokemon League: Get Your Game On. *Every Sun.* All invited to play this popular card game and trade cards with other players. *3 p.m., Get Your Game On, 310 S. State. Free. 786–3746.*

Sunday Matinee Puppet Show: Dreamland Theater. *Every Sun.* The Dreamland Puppet Troupe presents all-ages puppet shows by local writers featuring a variety of puppets created by local artists, including marionettes and shadow puppets. The stories often contain humorously intended social commentary that, like contemporary children's cartoons, some may consider inappropriate. *3:30 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 26 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. $5 (kids age 3 & under, free). 657–2337.*

★"Giving It All Away: The Story of William W. Cook and His Michigan Law Quadrangle": U-M Hatcher Graduate Library. Retired U-M Law Library director **Margaret Leary** discusses her book about the problems that jeopardized the 1930 gift that financed the U-M law quad. Signing. *4–5:30 p.m., 100 Hatcher Library, Enter from the Diag. Free. 615–6477.*

★Ann Arbor Morris. *Every Sun.* All invited to try this boisterous, jingly English ceremonial dance based on the 15th-century Spanish *moresca.* Wear athletic shoes. *6–8 p.m., outside Burton Tower. Free. Email a2morris@umich.edu to confirm. 747–8138.*

5 MONDAY (LABOR DAY)

Labor Day Picnic: Ann Arbor Democratic Party. With BBQ ribs, chicken, catfish, and veggie burgers.

Lecture SERIES

The Heinz C. Prechter Bipolar Research Fund presents

FREE to everyone

Please register at PrechterFund.org/register

5th Annual Prechter Lecture

Foundations and Frontiers

October 3, 2011 • 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Rackham Graduate School • 4th Floor
915 E. Washington • Ann Arbor

Please join us as we present a scientific summary and discussion on the current status of bipolar disorder research.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
Andrew Nierenberg, M.D.
Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School
"Doing the Impossible Task of Practicing Evidence Based Psychiatry: Treating Bipolar Depression as an Example"

Simon Evans, Ph.D. University of Michigan
"Nutritional Considerations in Bipolar Disorder"

Melissa Gross, Ph.D. University of Michigan
"Embodiment of Emotion: How Feelings Affect Body Movements"

Melvin McInnis, M.D. Principal Investigator of the Prechter Bipolar Research Fund, University of Michigan
Presenting a synopsis of the afternoon's program

The Heinz C. Prechter Bipolar Research Fund at the University of Michigan Depression Center

University of Michigan Depression Center

www.PrechterFund.org

JOPLIN FOR JOPLIN

RIVER RAISIN RAGTIME REVUE

Aiding Victims via Great Music

Please join us for a ragtime concert featuring music of Scott Joplin and Percy "The Joplin Kid" Wenrich to raise money for the victims of our nation's deadliest tornado that devastated Joplin, MO this past May. Collection cans are at Ann Arbor businesses. 50% of R4 cd sales in September and October will be donated to the JOPLIN RELIEF FUND, as well as a portion of concert ticket sales. Tax-deductible contributions can be made to the JOPLIN RELIEF FUND and mailed to: River Raisin Ragtime Revue, 411 E. Logan St., Tecumseh, MI 49286

Sunday Oct. 2, 2011, 3:00PM
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
1400 W. Stadium, Ann Arbor

Tickets $20 general admission ($10 students)
Available at the door 30 minutes prior to concert
www.ragtimeband.org ragtimeband@comcast.net
(517) 423-1962

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769-9066

Hours: Monday-Friday 9-6, Saturday 9-3

Located: 120 N. Fourth Ave, Ann Arbor *Just off M-14 and Main, across from the Courthouse on 4th Avenue*

NOT IN ANN ARBOR. NOT ANYMORE.

PEDESTRIANS HAVE THE RIGHT-OF-WAY AT ALL CROSSWALKS IN ANN ARBOR

Ann Arbor law requires drivers to stop for pedestrians approaching or within a crosswalk. The fine for not stopping is $100 and 2 points on your license.

We don't choose when to stop at a red light or stop sign. And we shouldn't choose when to stop at a crosswalk. If you see a pedestrian waiting to cross at a crosswalk, it's your responsibility to stop.

Stopping at crosswalks isn't difficult, but here are a few suggestions that make it downright simple:

1. Don't speed. Traveling at higher speeds makes it more difficult to see pedestrians.
2. Actively look for pedestrians at crosswalks when you drive. Remember stopping is not optional.
3. Slow down gradually. You stop safely at traffic lights; you can stop safely at crosswalks. And, yes, it is possible to stop even in heavy traffic if you're driving attentively. Really! We've tried it.

Visit *www.wbwc.org* or call 734-864-4095 to get involved in the A2 Walks Campaign or for additional resources.

Washtenaw Bicycling & Walking Coalition
WASHTENAW COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH
DDA
CITY OF ANN ARBOR MICHIGAN
THOMSON REUTERS
Michigan Department of Community Health
MDCH

All encouraged to bring a salad (last names A–M) or dessert (N–Z) to share. Nonalcoholic beverages provided; cash bar. All invited. *3–7 p.m., Island Park, off Island Dr. from Maiden Lane. $8 (students & seniors, $7; kids age 10 & under, free) in advance, $10 at the door. 829–8920.*

★**"Access to Obits: Building Legacy.com": U-M Knight-Wallace Fellows Program Annual Hovey Lecture.** Lecture by **Hayes Ferguson,** chief operating officer of Legacy.com, the world's largest online obituary service. Reception follows. *5 p.m., U-M Wallace House, 620 Oxford. Free. Reservations required. 998–7666.*

★**"The Civilized Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Mon.* Slow-paced "no-drop" ride, 12–18 miles, to Dexter, with a possible stop for ice cream. A good ride for beginners. Basic repair tips offered at 6:30 p.m. Other Mon. rides: **"Back Roads Ramble"** *(8:30 a.m., meet at 960 Forest Rd. off Country Club Dr., Barton Hills, 761–2885, 663–5060),* a slow-paced ride, 12–35 miles, along dirt and gravel roads to Independence Lake and other low-traffic destinations. **"Paved Country Roads Ride"** *(5:30 p.m., meet at Royster Clark, 885 Parker Rd. at Pine Cross Lane just south of Jackson Rd., 426–5116),* fast-, moderate-, and slow-paced training rides, 18–24 miles, along country roads west of town. Also, on Sept. 5 only, **"Labor Day Democratic Ride"** *(9 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St., 904–6431),* a ride whose pace and destination are determined by the assembled riders. *7 p.m. 610 Brierwood Ct. (off Arborview east of Westwood from Dexter). Free. 945–3133.*

★**Labor Day Potluck: U-M Sailing Club.** A chance to meet and chat with club members and try a bit of sailing on their boats. Bring a dish to pass. *10 a.m.–sunset, 8010 Strawberry Lake Road (left from Mast off North Territorial), Dexter. Free. 426–4299.*

6 TUESDAY

★**Preschool Storytimes: Ann Arbor District Library.** *Every Tues. & Wed.* Stories and songs for kids ages 2–5 (accompanied by an adult). *Note:* These storytimes are also offered at the Traverwood (Tues. 11–11:30 a.m., Wed. 6–6:30 p.m., & Thurs. 10–10:30 a.m.), Malletts Creek (Wed. 10–10:30 a.m.), and Pittsfield (Thurs. 7–7:30 p.m. & Fri. 10–10:30 a.m.) branches. *10–10:30 a.m. (Tues.) & 11–11:30 a.m. (Wed.), AADL youth department story room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301 (main library), 327–4200 (branches).*

Scrabble: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Tues.* All seniors age 50 & over invited to play this popular word game. *10 a.m.–noon, Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $2 (members, free). 794–6250.*

★**Jewish Older Adults: Jewish Community Center.** *Every Tues.* Activities begin at 11 a.m. with **"Energy Exercise"** ($4), a 60-minute workout led by Maria Farquhar, and at 1 p.m. **mah-jongg, bridge** and other **card games, board games, Wii sports,** and **quilting** and other **craft projects.** Also, at 1:30 p.m., **Yiddish Tish,** a Yiddish conversation group. Homemade buffet luncheon ($3) available at noon. All invited. *11 a.m.–3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free (except as noted). 971–0990.*

Newcomers Coterie Club of Ann Arbor. All women who have recently moved or returned to the Ann Arbor–Ypsilanti area are invited for a discussion of the club's numerous programs and activities. The program begins with lunch. *11:30 a.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson. $16; preregistration required by Sept. 1 via email to phyllisgrech@aol.com. 879–0488.*

Cooking Demos: Cranbrook Whole Foods Market. *Sept. 6, 22, & 27.* Demos by Whole Foods staffers. *Sept. 6:* **"Seafood and Sustainability: How to Choose Wisely and Prepare to Perfection."** *Sept. 22:* **"Vegan Baking: Peanut Butter & Chocolate Chip Cookies."** *Sept. 27:* **"Health Starts Here: Harvest Vegetables."** *5:30 p.m. (Sept. 6) & 6 p.m. (Sept. 22 & 27), Whole Foods Market, 990 W. Eisenhower Pkwy., Cranbrook Village shopping center. $10. Preregistration required. 997–7500.*

★**"Focus on Women: The Huron River Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Tues.* Slow/moderate-paced ride, 18–40 miles, to Dexter and back. Geared especially (but not exclusively) toward women new to riding. Other Tues. rides: **"Tuesday Ride to Chelsea"** *(8 a.m., Barton Nature Area parking lot, W. Huron River Dr. near Bird Rd., 996–8440),* a moderate-paced ride, 35–40 miles, to Chelsea for breakfast. *6 p.m., meet at Forsythe Middle School, 1655 Newport. Free. 662–0205.*

★**"Knit Happens": Ann Arbor Stitch 'n' Bitch.** *Every Tues.* All knitters invited to work on their projects and swap knitting tips. *6:30–8:30 p.m., location TBA at meetup.com/ann-arbor-StitchNBitch/ Free. 945–3035.*

★**Voices in Harmony Sweet Adelines.** *Every Tues.* All women invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local 70-member a cappella barbershop harmony

galleries

Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 W. Liberty. *Annual All Media Exhibition* (Sept. 2–Oct. 2). Reception Sept. 2, 6–8 p.m. Mon.–Sat. 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. noon–5:30 p.m. 994–8004.

Ann Arbor District Library. *Downtown Branch* (343 S. Fifth Ave.): *Chasing Light: Photography by Rocky Gonet; Michigan Voices: Kerrytown BookFest* and *Meanings Not Included: Drawings, Paperworks, and Digital Prints by Joseph Bergman* (all exhibits Sept. 2–Oct. 13). ***Malletts Creek Branch*** (3090 E. Eisenhower): *Abstract Drawings by John McLaughlin* and *Portrait of the Things I Can't Describe: Oil Paintings by Joan Newberry* (both exhibits through Sept. 14), and *9th Annual Teen Graffiti Art Exhibit* (Sept. 17–Oct. 27). Mon. 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Tues.–Fri. 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. noon–6 p.m. 327–4555.

Artistica Gallery, 3203 Broad St., Dexter. *Alphabetical Architecture* (Sept. 23, 5–8 p.m.). Collaborative project of framed photographs by Erin Gottbreht and Gaylen Wallis. Visitors may design their own framed photographs. 426–1500.

Clay Gallery, 335 S. Main. *Porcelains by Elizabeth Lurie* (Aug. 28–Oct. 2). Reception Sept. 2, 7–9 p.m. ***Artist talk*** Sept. 11, 3 p.m. Mon.–Thurs. 11 a.m.–8 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 11 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. 662–7927.

Concordia University Kreft Center for the Arts, 4090 Geddes. *Mirror Images: Selected Works from Michigan Artists* (Sept. 6–Oct. 16). Reception Sept. 9, 7–9 p.m. Tues.–Fri. noon–4 p.m., Sat. & Sun. 1–5 p.m. 995–7389.

Gallery Project, 215 S. Fourth Ave. *Umvelt (Subjective World)* (Sept. 21–Oct. 30). Multimedia exhibit in which local and national artists and scientists explore the sensory worlds of animals and insects. Reception Sept. 23, 6–9 p.m. Tues.–Sat. noon–9 p.m., Sun. noon–4 p.m. 997–7012.

Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. *Shadows in Brianza* (Aug. 16–Sept. 26). Paintings by Marianne Sachs-Iacob. Reception Sept. 7, 5–7 p.m. Mon.–Fri. 9:30 a.m.–5 p.m., by appointment, and during evening concerts. 769–2999.

Reehill Gallery (St. Aidan's/Northside Presbyterian Church), 1679 Broadway. *Susan Else Wyman (photographs)* (Sept. 9–Oct. 9). Reception Sept. 17, 7:30 p.m. Tues.–Fri. 9:30 a.m.–2 p.m., Sun. 9:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m., and by appointment. 929–2217.

Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. *Intervision* (Sept. 1–24). Art by Ellen Moucoulis, Marcia Polenberg, and Bill Knudstrup. Reception Sept. 9, 5–8 p.m. Thurs.–Sat. 3–9 p.m., Sun. 1:30–4 p.m. 480–2787.

Ellen Moucoulis's painting "Family Ties" is on display at the Riverside Arts Center gallery through September 24.

U-M Hatcher Graduate Library, Room 100 (enter from the Diag). ***North Lobby cases:*** *Ben Yomen: Labor Cartoons from the 1940s* (Sept. 1–Oct. 2). Original artwork that ridicules both labor bosses and Congress. ***Audubon Room:*** *Narrative and Image: Visualizing the Mediterranean World* (Sept. 23–Dec. 20). Maps, images, and texts that illustrate the interconnections of Mediterranean geography, history, and literature. Mon.–Fri. 8:30 a.m.–7 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. 1–7 p.m. ***Main Gallery:*** *Pictures of Resistance: The Wartime Photographs of Jewish Partisan Faye Schulman* (Sept. 6–Nov. 27). Images of partisans who fought the Germans in WW II. For hours, see lib.umich.edu/hatcher-graduate-library. 615–7876.

U-M Institute for the Humanities Gallery, 202 S. Thayer. *Waiting for the Extraordinary* (Sept. 29–Nov.5). Installation by Mark Dion. Reception Sept. 29, 6:30–8 p.m. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.–3 p.m. 936–3518.

U-M Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, 434 S. State. *Karanis Revealed: Discovering the Past and Present of a Michigan Excavation in Egypt* (Sept. 16–Dec. 18). Tues.–Fri. 9 a.m.–4 p.m., Sat. & Sun. 1–4 p.m. 763–3559.

U-M Museum of Art (UMMA), 525 S. State. *Multiple Impressions: Contemporary Chinese Woodblock Prints* (through Oct. 23). Tues.–Fri. 10 a.m.–7 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. 763–UMMA.

U-M Slusser Gallery (U-M School of Art & Design), 2000 Bonisteel. *Nothing to Say* (Sept. 9–Oct. 7). Juried exhibition that examines the concepts of nothingness, quiet, less is more, and what is there and not there. Reception Sept. 9, 6–9 p.m. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–5 p.m. 936–2082.

U-M Work (U-M School of Art & Design), 306 S. State. *Altered Ground* (Sept. 9–Oct. 7). Artists and designers reconsider the concept of landscape. Tues.–Sun. noon–7 p.m. 998–6178.

WSG Gallery, 306 S. Main. *Beyond Words: A Celebration of Book & Paper Arts* (Sept. 13–Oct. 11). Reception Sept. 6, 7–10 p.m. Tues. & Wed. noon–6 p.m., Thurs.–Sat. noon–10 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. 761–2287.

WCC Gallery One, 1st floor of the student center bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. *Culture in Conflict: Turkey* (August 23–Sept. 30). WCC students' photographs and videos explore Turkey's history, culture, and landscape. Reception Sept. 15, 5–7 p.m. Mon. & Tues. 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Wed. & Thurs. 10 a.m.–8 p.m., Fri. 10 a.m.–noon. 477–8512.

Ypsilanti Historical Museum, 220 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. *Quilts* (Sept. 25–Oct. 9). Tues.–Sun. 2–5 p.m. 482–4990.

chorus. *7–9:30 p.m., UAW Local 898 Hall, 8975 Textile Rd. (west of Rawsonville Rd. off I-94), Ypsilanti. Free to visitors ($26 monthly dues for those who join). 612–7580.*

English Country Dancing: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. *Every Tues.* Historical and traditional English dancing to live music. All dances taught. No partner or experience needed. Bring flat, nonslip shoes (running shoes OK). First-timers are asked to arrive at 7 p.m. *7–9:30 p.m., Chapel Hill Condominium clubhouse, 3350 Green Rd. (park on Burbank). $7 (students, $4; kids age 13 & under with a parent, free). 665–7704.*

★**"Tuesday Night Lights": Wheels in Motion.** *Every Tues.* Evening mountain-bike rides through different local trails and parks each week. Bike lights required. *7:15 p.m., Wheels in Motion, 3400 Washtenaw Ave. Free. 971–2121.*

★**Huron Valley Harmonizers Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society.** *Every Tues.* All male singers invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local barbershop harmony chorus. *7:30 p.m., Stony Creek United Methodist Church, 8635 Stony Creek Rd., Ypsilanti. Free to visitors ($130 annual dues for those who join). Newcomers should call in advance: Greg Humbel, 445–1925.*

★**Ann Arbor Camera Club.** *Sept. 6 & 20.* Club members show their projected images (Sept. 6) and prints (Sept. 20) on various topics, including **"Wildflowers."** *7:30 p.m., Wines Elementary School auditorium, 1701 Newport. Free ($25 annual dues for those who join). 327–4781.*

★**"Spanish Readers Group": Nicola's Books.** All invited to join a discussion, in Spanish, of ***El Viaje del Elefante,*** José Saramago's morality tale about an elephant's journey across 16th-century Europe. *7:30 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

7 WEDNESDAY

★**Chess: U-M Turner Senior Resource Center.** *Every Wed.* All seniors invited to play chess. Refreshments. *1–4 p.m., Turner, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

★**Scrabble: Ann Arbor Scrabblers.** *Every Wed.* All invited to play this popular word game. Bring a set, if you have one. *5–8 p.m., Arbor Brewing, 114 E. Washington. Free. 994–0084.*

★**"West Side Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Wed.* Slow/moderate-paced ride, 22–25 miles, and a slow-paced ride, 13–18 miles, to the Dexter Dairy Queen and back. Now in its 34th year, this ride is a favorite with newcomers and casual riders. Other Wed. ride: **"Early Morning Ride from Ann Arbor West Side"** *(8 a.m., Forsythe Middle School, 1655 Newport, 649–9762),* a moderate-paced 40-mile ride to Chelsea or Whitmore Lake. *6 p.m. sharp, meet at Sweepster parking lot, 2800 N. Zeeb Rd. Free. 426–5116 (longer ride), 665–4552 & 761–2659 (shorter ride).*

★**"Thai and Chai": Sun Moon Yoga.** All invited to sip chai tea while learning Thai massage history, theory, and techniques from Chicago School of Thai Massage instructor Michelle Tupko. *6:30–8:30 p.m., Sun Moon Yoga, 404 W. Huron. Free. 929–0274.*

Ann Arbor Bridge Club. *Every Wed.* All invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. If you plan to come without a partner, call in advance or arrive 20 minutes early. *7–11 p.m., Walden Hills clubhouse, 2114 Pauline west of Maple. (Park in the designated spaces in the lot on the north side of Pauline.) $6 per person. 623–8050.*

★**"Top Ten Secrets to Healthy Living": Nutritional Healing Center.** Talk by nutrition expert Kerry Cradit. *7 p.m., NHC, 3610 W. Liberty. Free. 302–7575.*

★**Kerrytown BookFest Reception: Ann Arbor District Library.** U-M Native American studies lecturer **Margaret Noori,** who teaches the Anishinaabe language and American Indian literature, reads Native American poetry and discusses *Michigan Voices,* a new AADL exhibit organized in conjunction with the Kerrytown BookFest (see 11 Sunday listing). *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"Granta 116: 10 Years Later": Nicola's Books.** Panel discussion about how the world has changed since the 9/11 attacks with local poets **Linda Gregerson** and **Megan Levad,** local fiction writer **Jeremiah Chamberlin,** and fiction writer and journalist **V.V. Ganeshananthan,** a U-M visiting professor whose novel *Love Marriage* was named one of the *Washington Post Book World* Best Books of 2008. One of a series of similar events around the country sponsored by the UK literary magazine *Granta. 7 p.m., Nicola's Books, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**Visitors Night: Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club.** All invited to check out the trains whizzing around the club's big, elaborate layout, housed in a depot restored by the club. *7:30–10 p.m., Michigan Central depot, 3487 Broad, Dexter. Free. 426–5100.*

★**History of Books & Printing Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** All invited to discuss ***Nineteenth-Century English,*** Richard W. Bailey's study of a century of changes in vocabulary, grammar, and voice of the English language. Nonmembers welcome. *7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669–0451.*

"Juke Box Jungle": Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub. *Every Wed.* Conor O'Neill's staff member Brian Aherne hosts a music trivia quiz. Prizes. *9–11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. $3 team fee. 665–2968.*

Open Dancing: Swing Ann Arbor. *Every Wed.* Swing dancing to recorded music. No partner needed. Bring casual or nicer shoes that stay on your feet when you're active. Preceded by beginning Lindy hop (7 p.m.) and beginning swing (8 p.m.) lessons. *9–11 p.m., Michigan Union Pendleton Room. $5 (students, $4) includes lessons. 945–8428.*

8 THURSDAY

★**Gifts of Art: U-M Hospitals.** *Sept. 8, 15, 22, & 29.* Performances by local musicians, including jazz pianist **Tad Weed** (Sept. 8), ragtime and boogie-woogie pianist **Jerry Perrine** (Sept. 15), the guitjo (6-string banjo) and cello duo **Acoustic Eidolon** (Sept. 22), and the jazz and R&B band **All Directions** (Sept.

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Wednesday, September 21
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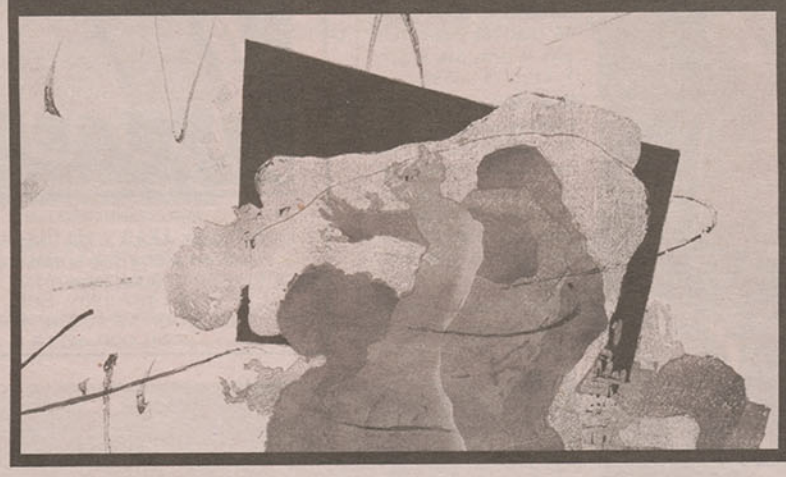

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Multiple Impressions was organized by the University of Michigan Museum of Art with the cooperation and support of the China Academy of Art, Hangzhou, China. It is made possible in part by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Henry Luce Foundation, the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation, and the University of Michigan Center for Chinese Studies, Confucius Institute, and Office of the Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs.

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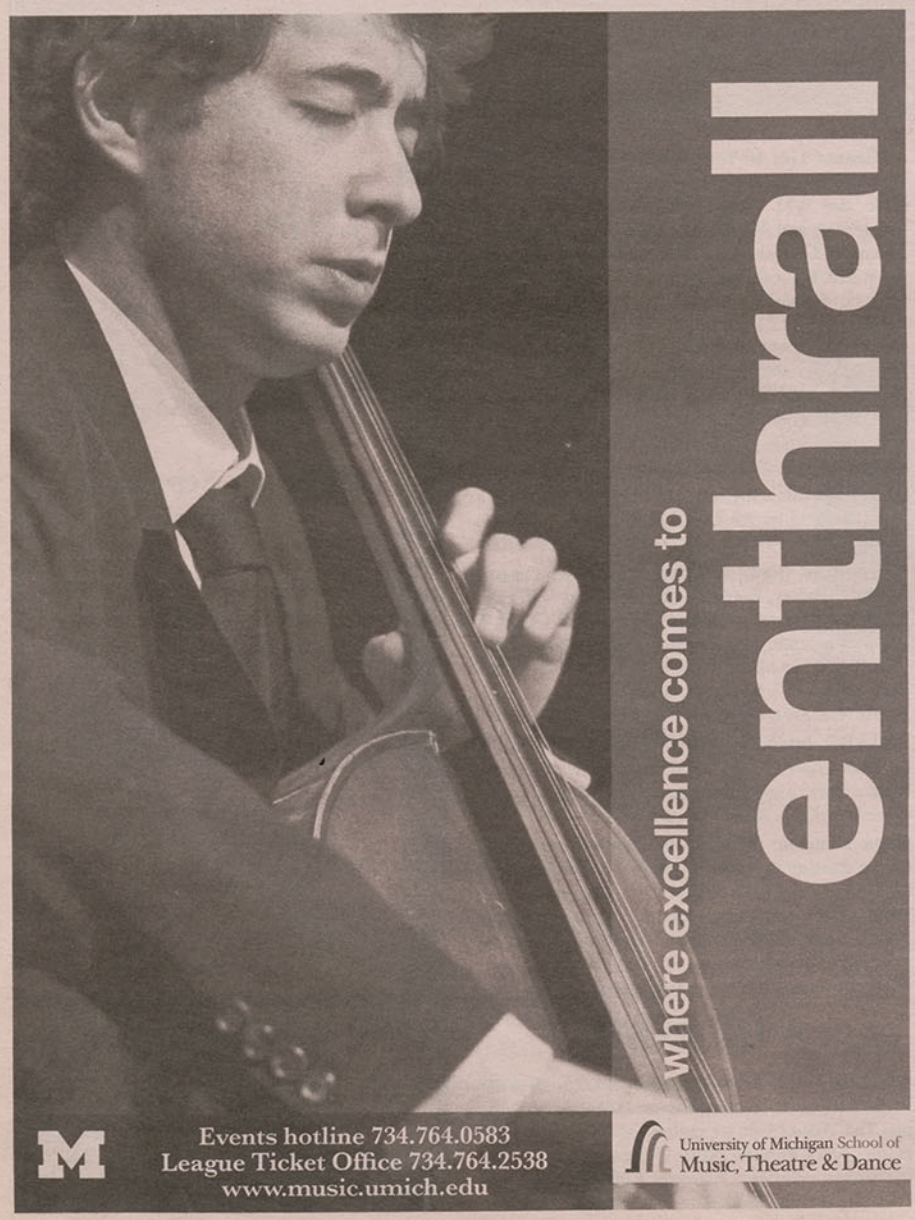

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University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre & Dance

Homegrown Festival

40 varieties of local tomatoes?

The rain poured down on us throughout my son Little Brother's entire soccer game at Northside Elementary School. Adults huddled under umbrellas, kids wore raincoats under their jerseys, and even the boys on the sidelines hid from the pouring rain under a makeshift tent.

I worried that the second Homegrown Festival would be rained out, as it had been the infamous first year, at Community High School. However, once the soccer game ended, so did the rain. Surprised, Little Brother, his sisters, and I headed down to the Farmers Market with renewed spirits.

I went expecting apples, and maybe some Michigan cherries. But with cornstalks strapped to all the posts, piles of strategically placed hay bales, and twinkling Christmas lights overhead as the day darkened, this was not at all just another market. With a local band at one end and a jam session at the other, the Homegrown Festival had a beat and a rhythm all its own.

Six-year-old Little Brother was entranced by a Tin Man marionette made completely of reused materials at Recycle Ann Arbor. He beat the drums with all the children at Drummunity. He begged for a turn to spin the spinning composter.

Locally made wine from Cherry Creek Vineyard and Winery as well as locally roasted coffee from Mighty Good Coffee attested to the grown-up nature of this event, while the "Keep Ann Arbor Funky" folks and the Free Speech Coffee definitely kept the fair, well, funky. Ann Arbor regulars Produce Station and People's Food Co-op did not disappoint with their selection of beautiful locally grown fruits and vegetables. Zingerman's showcased its Westwind bread—Michigan-grown wheat, Michigan-milled flour, baked at Zingerman's Bakehouse—on a sandwich menu that featured all local ingredients, including Zingerman's Creamery cheese.

Intriguing demonstrations included "You can kraut," "Farm your yard," "Mad knife skillz," and "Wild food and tamed greens."

Even the nonprofits were local—Food Gatherers sat with a beautiful bouquet of beets. Leslie Science and Nature Center challenged children to match the tricky tracks to the wily animals that live among us. The Huron River Watershed Council offered "homegrown" drinking water from the Huron River.

My daughters loved going from booth to booth, creating the ultimate gourmet local sampler for our dinner, while also foraging for "tries," until ten-year-old Niu Niu finally met her match at the table offering samples of forty different varieties of locally grown tomatoes. Niu Niu does not eat tomatoes. Her hunter-gatherer impulse came to an abrupt halt, and it was time to go home.

This year's Homegrown Festival is held on September 10.

—Frances Kai-Hwa Wang

29). *12:10 p.m., U-M Hospital lobby, 1500 E. Medical Center Dr. (off Fuller). Free. 936–ARTS.*

Ikebana International Chapter 183. All invited to join a session of ikebana, the Japanese art of flower arranging. Call for instructions on equipment to bring. *1 p.m., University Commons, 817 Asa Gray Dr. (off Huron Pkwy.). $15 (members, $8) materials fee. (248) 685–7696.*

★**"Creative Crafts": Ann Arbor District Library.** Craft activity for kids in grades K–5. *4–5:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series.** *Sept. 8, 15, 22, & 29.* Readings by poets and fiction writers. Today: *GQ* features editor **Donovan Hohn,** an award-winning poet and essayist whose first book, *Moby-Duck,* follows the journey of 28,800 rubber duckies lost at sea in 1992 when a cargo ship tipped over in the North Pacific. *The New York Times* describes the book as "a lively travelogue as well as a voyage of discovery and a philosophical inquiry of sorts," observing that Hohn "seems to have it all: deep intelligence, a strikingly original voice, humility and a hunger to suss out everything a yellow duck may literally or metaphorically touch." *5:10 p.m., UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 764–6330.*

★**"An Anatomy of Addiction: Sigmund Freud, William Halsted, and the Miracle Drug Cocaine": Nicola's Books.** U-M communicable diseases professor **Howard Markel,** author of the best-selling *When Germs Travel*, discusses his new book about the effects of cocaine addiction on Freud and on Halsted, the founder of modern surgery. Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's Books, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

Ann Arbor Ski Club. *Sept. 8 & 22.* All invited to learn about the club's downhill and cross-country ski and snowboarding outings and other social activities. Followed on Sept. 22 by a **dance.** Refreshments. Must be 21 or older. *7:30 p.m., Cobblestone Farm barn, 2781 Packard. $5. 786–2237.*

Israeli Dancing: Jewish Community Center. *Sept. 8, 15, & 22.* Dance instructor Cheryl Felt and DJ Amnon Steiner lead a variety of Israeli dancing to recorded music. Easy dances and oldies the first hour followed by intermediate dances and requests. Beginners welcome. New dances taught each week. *7:30–10 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $5 (students, free). 395–4223.*

"The Light in the Piazza": Encore Musical Theatre Company. *Sept. 8–11, 15–18, 22–25, 29 & 30 and Oct. 1 & 2.* Steve DeBruyne directs this local professional company in Craig Lucas and Adam Guettel's 2003 musical, set in Tuscany in 1953, about an American tourist who anxiously tries to thwart her daughter's budding romance with a handsome Florentine. The passionate, richly melodic score draws on Neoromantic classical and opera music. Cast TBA. *7:30 p.m. (Thurs.), 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), & 3 p.m. (Sat., Sun., & Sept. 22), Encore, 3126 Broad St., Dexter. Tickets $28 (members & seniors, $25; groups of 10 or more, $22) in advance at theencoretheatre.org and at the door. 268–6200.*

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

★"Fashion's Night Out": Briarwood Mall. After-hours shopping, a fashion show, entertainment, and activities, including Magic 105.1's "So You Think You Can Dance" contest. Prizes and refreshments. *9–10:30 p.m., Briarwood mall. Free. 769–9610.*

9 FRIDAY

2011 Golf Tournament: Washtenaw County United Way. Four-person scramble with a shotgun start. (In a scramble format, each player hits every shot from the spot of the best ball of their foursome, so lousy golfers don't have to worry about hurting their team.) Preceded at 7 a.m. by breakfast and registration. *8 a.m., Pierce Lake Golf Course, 1175 S. Main, Chelsea. $100. 971–8200.*

★All Breed Agility Trials: Ann Arbor Dog Training Club. *Sept. 9–11.* Dog trainers from throughout the Midwest and Canada lead their animals through an obstacle course and jumps of various heights. Spectators welcome. *7 a.m.–around 4 p.m., Ann Arbor Dog Training Club, 1575 E. North Territorial Rd. (1½ miles east of US-23), Whitmore Lake. Free to spectators. 995–2801.*

Rummage Sale: St. Aidan's Episcopal Church. *Sept. 9 & 10.* Sale of used clothes, household goods, furniture, and more. *8 a.m.–1 p.m. St. Aidan's, 1679 Broadway. Free admission. 663–5503.*

59th Annual Book Sale: American Association of University Women Fundraiser. *Sept. 9–11.* This community institution, one of the largest book sales in Michigan, offers CDs, DVDs, videos, and thousands of books sorted by subject and sold at feeding-frenzy prices starting at $1. Half price on Sept. 10 and $8 a bag (bags provided) on Sept. 11. Preceded at 8 a.m. today by a **preview sale** ($15 admission). *10 a.m.–8 p.m. (Sept. 9 & 10) & 10 a.m.–3 p.m. (Sept. 11), WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free admission. 973–6287.*

★U-M Field Hockey vs. CMU. The U-M also has matches this month against **Bucknell** (Sept. 11, 1 p.m.), **Ball State** (Sept. 17, 10 a.m.), and **Boston University** (Sept. 18, 1 p.m.). *2 p.m., Ocker Field, 1202 S. State. Free. 764–0247.*

★"First Love, Last Dance": University Living Cultural Center. Phoenix writer Nancy Rossman reads from her memoir about her mother's life. Signing. *2–3:30 p.m., University Living, 2865 S. Main. Free. Reservations required. 669–3030, ext. 233.*

★"The U-M Symphony Band 'Musiks' in China": U-M School of Music. U-M musicology professor Joseph Lam discusses the Symphony Band's May 2011 trip to China and how it illustrates "musiking," a way of advancing personal and cultural agendas by manipulating music as an object, site, and process. *5 p.m., Michigan Union. Free. 764–0594.*

Annual Barn Dance: Salem Area Historical Society. Square dancing to live music by **Picks & Sticks** and caller TBA. Cider and doughnuts available. Proceeds used to preserve the nearby Jarvis Stone School and to continue to rebuild the Dickerson Barn. The historical society also sponsors a **Country Antique Fair & Flea Market** Sept. 17 at the historic Jarvis Stone School (10 a.m.–4 p.m., 7991 North Territorial Rd. at Curtis Rd.). *7–10 p.m., Three Cedar Barn, Six Mile Rd. at Curtis Rd. north off North Territorial. $5 (SAHS members, $3) at the door only. (248) 437–6651.*

"Othello": Blackbird Theatre Shakespeare West. *Every Fri. & Sat., Sept. 9–24.* Director Lynch Travis wraps up Blackbird's summer-long series of West Park Shakespeare productions with this tragedy of jealousy, suspicion, and betrayal. The tale opens with Iago plotting the undoing of Othello, a Moorish general in the Venetian army who has passed over Iago for the position of lieutenant. Iago's vengeful scheme to turn Othello against his wife, Desdemona, embroils all those close to both men, with the innocent used as pawns for evil by a character considered Shakespeare's most villainous. For mature audiences. Cast: Steven O'Brien, J. Naim Moore, Julia Garlotte, Stephanie L. Dennehy, Joseph Fournier, and Randolph Fitzpatrick. *7 p.m., West Park Band Shell. Tickets $25 (seniors, $20; students, $10) in advance at blackbirdtheatre.org and at the gate. 332–3848.*

"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee": EMU Theatre Department. *Sept. 9–11.* EMU drama professor Ken Stevens directs EMU drama students in a revival of last June's hit production of William Finn and Rachael Sheinkin's Tony-winning 2004 one-act musical comedy about 6 anxiously overachieving adolescents competing in a spelling bee run by 3 adults who have barely managed to escape childhood themselves. *7 p.m., EMU Sponberg Theater, Ford St. (off Lowell at Jarvis), Ypsilanti. Tickets $15 (students, $12; kids 12 & under, $6) in advance and at the door. 487–1221.*

★U-M Women's Soccer vs. WMU. U-M also has games this month vs. **CMU** (Sept. 11, 6 p.m.), **Min-**

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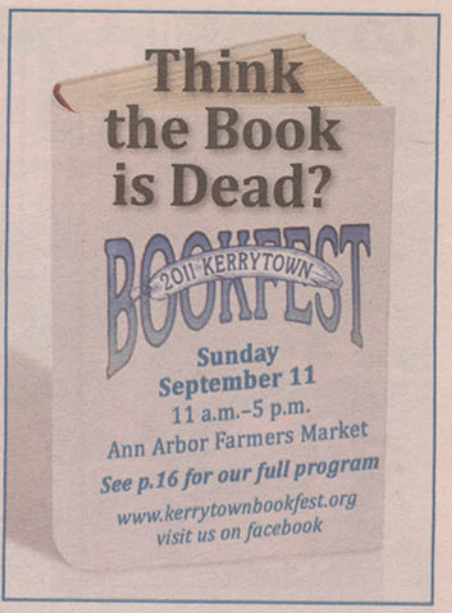

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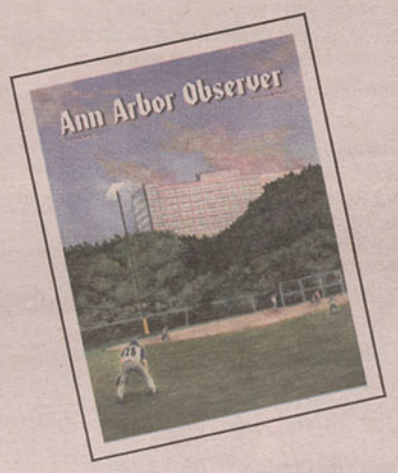

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Conferences

Dec 2–3 — 2011 HASTAC V International Conference on Digital Scholarly Communication, day-long, campus-wide event

In the Gallery

Exhibitions and gallery receptions are held in the Institute for the Humanities gallery, 202 S. Thayer, except where noted. Gallery hours are M-F, 9am-5pm, Sat 10am-3pm

Sept 29 – Nov 5 — "Waiting for the Extraordinary," a site-specific installation by **Mark Dion,** Sidman Fellow in the Arts

Sept 29 — **Gallery reception** for "Waiting for the Extraordinary," 6:30pm–8:00pm, immediately following the Penny Stamps lecture at the Michigan Theater

Dec 1 – Jan 28 — "Loops," three dimensional digital projection created by **Paul Kaiser,** the recipient of the 2011 Kidder Residency in the Arts fellowship, and **OpenEnded Group** based upon their collaboration with **Merce Cunningham**

Dec 1 – Jan 13 — "Packard in 3D," opening and premiere of new work exploring the abandoned Packard Plant in Detroit, Michigan created by **Paul Kaiser** and **OpenEnded Group.** Exhibition is located in the Chrysler Gallery, Duderstadt Center, 2281 Bonisteel Blvd. (U-M north campus). Gallery hours: M-F, 12pm–6pm

Lectures & Performances

Sept 29 — **Mark Dion** Lecture, School of Art & Design's Penny W. Stamps Distinguished Speaker Series, 5:10pm, Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty

Oct 19 — **George Lewis** with **Geri Allen** in a digital acoustic concert, with question and answer following, 5:00pm, Stamps Auditorium, School of Music, 1226 Murfin Ave.

Dec 1 — **Paul Kaiser** Lecture, School of Art & Design's Penny W. Stamps Distinguished Speaker Series, 5:10pm, Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty

Author's Forum

Author's Forum events are held in the Hatcher Graduate Library, library gallery, room 100, at 5:30pm, except where noted.

Oct 12 — *An Anatomy of Addiction: Sigmund Freud, William Halsted, and the Miracle Drug Cocaine.* A conversation with **Howard Markel** and **Daniel Herwitz**

Nov 4 — *Anatomy of a Disappearance.* A Conversation with **Hisham Matar** and **Anton Shammas,** 5:00pm

Dec 7 — *Ghost Writers: Us Haunting Them.* A Conversation with **Keith Taylor, Laura Kasischke,** and **Other Ghost Writers**

Brown Bag Lectures

Brown Bag lectures are held on Tuesdays at 202 S. Thayer, room 2022, at 12:30pm, except where noted.

Sept 13 — **Amy Kulper,** architecture, *Featuring our Fellows,* "Immanent Natures"

Sept 20 — **Ben Gunsberg,** English, *Featuring our Fellows,* "Technological Enchantment and Literacy in the Digital Age"

Sept 27 — **Mark Dion,** artist, 2011 Paula and Edwin Sidman Fellow in the Arts, The Making of "Waiting for the Extraordinary"

Oct 4 — **Finn Brunton,** school of information, *Featuring the Digital Humanities,* "Velocity/Growth: Essays and Experiments in the Digital Humanities"

Oct 11 — **Marial Iglesias,** visiting fellow, University of Havana, "Law in Slavery and Freedom"

Oct 20 — **Arnold Davidson,** University of Chicago, and **George Lewis,** Columbia University, *Featuring the Digital Humanities,* "Improvisation as a Way of Life," Note: this event takes place on a Thursday at 5:00pm, room 2022

Oct 25 — **Phil Pochoda,** library, *Featuring the Digital Humanities,* "Digital Scholarly Publishing: A Systems View"

Nov 1 — **Alaina Lemon,** anthropology, *Featuring our Fellows,* "The Alchemy of Estrangement"

Nov 8 — **Tung-Hui Hu,** English, *Featuring the Digital Humanities,* "The Nuclear-proof Internet and Other Myths"

Nov 15 — **Julie Klein,** Wayne State University, *Featuring the Digital Humanities,* "Mapping Digital Humanities Today"

Nov 29 — **Tara McPherson,** University of Southern California, *Featuring the Digital Humanities,* "Digital Media and Learning"

Dec 6 — **Ken Kiesler,** conductor, school of music

Dec 13 — **Paul Courant,** school of information, *Featuring the Digital Humanities,* "Changes in Communication that Derive from New Information Technologies"

nesota (Sept. 23, 7 p.m.), and **Wisconsin** (Sept. 25, 2 p.m.). *7:30 p.m., U-M Soccer Field, 2250 S. State. Free. 764–0247.*

★"Adventures: Had or Wished for": Older Lesbians Organizing. All lesbians invited to join a discussion. *7:30 p.m., Jim Toy Community Center (former WRAP office), 319 Braun Ct. Free. 995–9867.*

★Advanced Study Group: Rudolf Steiner Study Circle of Ann Arbor. *Sept. 9 & 23.* All invited to join an ongoing discussion of Rudolf Steiner's *An Outline of Occult Science.* Familiarity with Steiner's basic ideas required. *8–9:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes. Free. 944–4903.*

Advanced English Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Local callers call dances they learned over the summer to live music TBA. For experienced dancers. *8–11 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). $10. (248) 288–4737.*

Howard Fishman: Kerrytown Concert House. This critically acclaimed singer and guitarist performs an elegant, exuberant blend of New Orleans jazz, Brooklyn soul, pop, gospel, country, and experimental music that, according to *The New York Times,* "transcends time and idiom." Fishman, who began his career as a street performer in New Orleans and New York, has performed at prestigious venues in the U.S. and abroad, including New York's Lincoln Center and Le Petit Journal in Paris, and with diverse musicians from Odetta to Yo-Yo Ma. *The Boston Herald* has described Fishman's unique and wide-ranging style as "something like a less-innocent Jonathan Richman or less-acid Lou Reed. Which means he's got the range to stroll in the sunshine and prowl the dark streets after midnight, too." With an ensemble to include violin, bass, and horn (musicians TBA). *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15–$30 (students, $10). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"The Light in the Piazza": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 8 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Jef Brannan: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Sept. 9 & 10.* This Detroit comic is known for a fast-paced, good-natured show that mixes song parodies with lots of raunchy one-liners, jokes, and jabs at his audience. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 & 10:30 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). $10 reserved seating in advance, $12 general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

10 SATURDAY

★Eco-Restoration Workday: U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum. *Sept. 10 & 17.* All invited to help Matthaei staff members remove invasive plants. Dress for outdoor work. Snacks and tools provided, or bring your own. *9 a.m.–noon, meet at the Arb Reader Center (Sept. 10), 1610 Washington Hts., & Matthaei (Sept. 17), 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. Registration requested. 647–8528.*

★28th Annual Jim Monaghan Antique Engine Show. A display of old steam and gas engines, related paraphernalia, and other contraptions. Side attractions include alternative energy devices, a steam-powered row boat, "hit or miss" engines that pop and then run down a bit before popping again, demonstrations of radio-controlled boats, a swap meet, and more. Free hot dogs, corn on the cob, and boiled potatoes. Access to the petting farm is available. If you have something you'd like to exhibit, set-up is all day Sept. 9. *Dawn–dusk, Domino's Farms, 30 Frank Lloyd Wright Dr. (off Earhart Rd. north of Plymouth Rd.). Free admission. 422–3378.*

★Open Weekend: U-M Sailing Club. *Sept. 10 & 11.* A chance to sample the various water sports the club offers, including sailing and windsurfing. Bring a bathing suit, change of clothes, towel, sunblock, and sunglasses. *9 a.m.–sunset (Sept. 10) & noon–sunset (Sept. 11), 8010 Strawberry Lake Road (left from Mast off North Territorial), Dexter. Free. 426–4299.*

★"Michigan Election Reform Alliance": Gray Panthers of Huron Valley. MERA representatives present proposals to solve serious ongoing problems in the integrity of Michigan's election system. Refreshments. The program begins with coffee & socializing. *9:45 a.m.–noon, U-M Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 973–5593.*

★"Insect Adventure": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. All invited to look for and learn about insects. Bring a net and containers if you have them. *10–11:30 a.m., County Farm Park, Platt Rd. entrance. Free. 971–6337.*

"From Beautiful to Bizarre: Annual Plant Sales": Michigan Cactus Society/Southeast Michigan Bromeliad Society. *Sept. 10 & 11.* Show and sale of exotic, bizarre, and rare cacti and succulents and exotic bromeliad houseplants. Also, lectures on "The Wonderful World of Bromeliads" (Sept. 10, 1 p.m.) and "Growing Bromeliads in Michigan" (Sept. 11, 1 p.m.).

10 a.m.–4:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free admission. 647–7600.

★**"Dancing Babies": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local early childhood educator Gari Stein, director of Music for Little Folks, presents a program of music and movement for infants through 5-year-olds. *10–10:40 a.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Great Chuseok Party": U-M Center for Korean Studies.** Traditional Korean autumnal festival that includes music and dance performances by U-M students, Korean food, games such as top spinning and the dice game *yutnori,* kite-making for kids, and a chance to make *songpyeon* (rice cakes). *10:30 a.m.–1 p.m., SSWB 1st floor, 1080 South University. Free. 764–1825.*

★**Nature's Expressions.** *Sept. 10 & 11.* Show and sale of crystalline mineral specimens, fossils, shells, mounted butterflies and insects, and more. Includes a complete fossil skeleton of a 9-foot, 100,000-year-old cave bear. *11 a.m.–5 p.m., 3443 Daleview Dr. (off N. Maple Rd. north of Huron River Dr.). Free. 994–3048.*

★**"Scio Woods Preserve Hike": Huron Valley Sierra Club.** 2-mile steady-paced hike through oak and hickory woodlands. *11:15 a.m.–1 p.m., Scio Woods Preserve, north side of Scio Church Rd. west of Wagner. Free. 677–0823.*

★**The Ton-Up Motorcycle & Music Festival.** A motorcycle and scooter show with live bands TBA. Also, a pin-up model contest. *Noon–midnight, Depot Town, Ypsilanti. Free. 879–1201.*

★**"Olde Boys Weekend": U-M Men's City Rugby Club.** The U-M city team, which includes townies as well as U-M grad students, faculty, and staff, plays a match against a team of U-M rugby alumni. *1 p.m., Riverside Park (off Wall St.). Free. 417–4534.*

★**"Make Your Own AARFID Library Card": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to make their own Ann Arbor Radio Frequency ID to use to check out books and other materials at an AADL self-check station. *1–3 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★**Family Fun: Oz's Music Environment.** *Every Sat. except Sept. 3.* Families invited to get onstage to sing and make music on a variety of instruments. *3–4 p.m., Oz's, 1920 Packard. $15 per family. 662–8283.*

★**In Good Company African American Book Club: Nicola's Books.** All invited to join a discussion of ***Wench,*** Dolen Perkins-Valdez's novel that chronicles the lives of 4 slave women who are their owners' mistresses. *4 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**Homegrown Festival 2011.** *See review, p. 60.* Lots of food from local restaurants and farmers. Also, Michigan wine & beer, heirloom tomato tastings, demos by local chefs, kids activities, information about nonprofit organizations, a silent auction, and live music by local bands, including rock and soul singer-songwriter **Mayaeni** (6 p.m.), the R&B, soul, and funk septet **Saints of Soul** (7:15 p.m.), the enchanting country-folk gypsy swing quintet **Orpheum Bell** (8:30 p.m.), and the ska and 80s-style pop quintet **Hullabaloo** (10 p.m.). *6–11 p.m., Farmers Market. Free admission. 619–0429.*

★**"Full Moon Campfire": Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy.** All invited to enjoy a family-oriented campfire in one of the largest conservancy-owned nature preserves in southeast Michigan. Bring campfire refreshments and lawn chairs; firewood appreciated. Gates open at 5 p.m. *7–11 p.m., LeFurge Woods, 2252 N. Prospect Rd. (½ mile north of Geddes), Superior Twp. Free. 484–6565.*

"Othello": Blackbird Theatre Shakespeare West. See 9 Friday. 7 p.m.

"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee": EMU Theatre Department. See 9 Friday. 7 p.m.

U-M Football vs. Notre Dame. *8 p.m., Michigan Stadium. $70. 764–0247.*

2nd Saturday Contra Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Don Theyken calls to music by the Sharon Hollow String Band. No partner needed. Bring flat, smooth-sole shoes. *8–11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). $10 (students, $5). 408–1829.*

Scott McWhinney: Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth Cafe 704 Coffeehouse. Veteran local singer-songwriter and acoustic guitarist whose songs blend a soul-inflected sensibility with jazz stylings. *8–10 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. $8 ($15 for 2). 665–0409.*

"The Light in the Piazza": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 8 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

Jef Brannan: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 9 Friday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

11 SUNDAY

★**"Fall Migrants at Kensington Metropark": Washtenaw Audubon Society.** WAS member Cathy Carroll leads a hike to a variety of habitats to look for various warblers and flycatchers, as well as tanagers, grosbeaks, and waterfowl. *7:30 a.m. sharp departure, meet at the Park-n-Ride lot, Plymouth Rd. just west of US-23. Free. 677–3275.*

"Row-Along Regatta": Pioneer High School Crew. A chance to learn the fundamentals of rowing from Pioneer coaches and row in the river in an actual racing boat. Spectators welcome. Proceeds benefit the Pioneer crew. *10 a.m.–2:30 p.m., Bandemer Park, 1325 Lake Shore (off N. Main). $50 (students, $40). Preregistration required. Free to spectators. 994–1052.*

★**Ann Arbor Unitarian Fellowship.** *Sept. 11 & 25. Sept. 11:* U-M consulting psychologist Eric Middleton discusses **"The Making of a Modern M.D."** *Sept. 25:* Local writing teacher Kate Musgrave discusses **"Atheist Magazines."** *10 a.m., Burns Park Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 971–8638.*

★**9th Annual Kerrytown BookFest.** This bustling, lively festival—the largest 1-day book festival in Michigan—celebrates books and bookmaking with a huge variety of demonstrations, talks, panel discussions, signings, displays, and sale tables by local bookstores, booksellers, and publishers.

In the main tent: Community Book Award winner and U-M Native American studies lecturer **Margaret Noori** (11 a.m.) discusses the Ojibwe (Anishinaabe) language and reads her own and other Ojibwe poems. *Men's Journal* editor Doug Stanton interviews 2010 National Book Award winner **Jaimy Gordon** (noon) about her work and winning novel, *Lord of Misrule.* Aunt Agatha's bookstore co-owner Robin Agnew interviews award-winning mystery writer **Louise Penny** (1 p.m.). Historical fiction writer **D.E. Johnson** moderates **"Michigan Voices: A Sense of Place"** (2 p.m.), a panel with award-winning local poet and novelist **Laura Kasischke,** award-winning Kalamazoo novelist **Bonnie Jo Campbell,** Mount Pleasant writer **Mike Federspiel,** and Michigan Court of Appeals judge and novelist **William Whitbeck.** U-M engineering education lecturer David Arnsdorf moderates **"Science Fiction Voices"** (3 p.m.), a panel with local sci-fi and fantasy writers **Steven Piziks, Jim C. Hines, David Erik Nelson,** and **Carrie Harris.** HKO Media president Harvey Ovshinsky moderates **"Counterculture Voices"** (4 p.m.), a panel focusing on Detroit's underground newspapers and music, with Detroit-based music journalist **Brett Callwood,** former *Creem* editor and *Detroit News* writer **Susan Whitall,** and Azenphony Press founder **Ken Wachsberger.**

In Kerrytown Concert House: announcement of 2011 **Book Cover Contest** winners (11 a.m.). U-M creative writing professor Lolita Hernandez moderates **"Working Voices"** (noon), a panel with Detroit poets **M.L. Liebler** and **Ken Meisel** and Michigan writer **Jeff Vande Zande.** Novelist and WSU creative writing teacher Dorene O'Brien moderates **"Detroit Voices"** (1 p.m.), a panel with *Detroit Free Press* writer **John Gallagher,** *Lost Detroit: Stories Behind the Motor City's Majestic Ruins* photographer **Sean Doerr** and writer **Dan Austin,** and NPR "Changing Gears" reporter **Kate Davidson.** Patti O'Brien moderates **"Victorian History Mystery"** (2 p.m.), a panel with fellow historical mystery writers **Tasha Alexander, Maureen Jennings,** and **Stefanie Pintoff.** Thriller writer Karen Dionne moderates **"The Art of the Thriller"** (3 p.m.), a panel with fellow thriller writers **Brian Freeman, Andrew Grant,** and **Mark Terry.** Writer Jack Dempsey moderates **"Michigan Civil War Voices"** (4 p.m.), a panel with nonfiction writers **Kim Crawford** and **Martin Bertera** and Michigan historian **Rick Liblong.**

In Hollander's: An **Ann Arbor Women Artists** panel discuss their work (11 a.m.). A discussion of **Hollander's Summer Residency** (noon) with workshop instructors Ruth Bardenstein, Barbara Brown, Alvey Jones, and Marilyn Prucka. **"Two Books about Books"** (1 p.m.), a discussion about their recent books by U-M libraries senior paper conservator Kathy Baker and book artist Julia Miller. A panel with book artists featured in the WSG Gallery exhibit **"Beyond Words"** (2 p.m.). A discussion of the acquisition of the Ann Arbor–based specialty hand bindery **Bessenberg Bindery** (3 p.m.) by a representative from the Dexter-based book manufacturer Thomson-Shore. **"Marketing for Book Artists"** (4 p.m.), a discussion led by book artist Laura Russell. Also, a lecture-demo on their ***Tasting and Touring Michigan's Homegrown Food*** (noon) by author Jaye Beeler and photographer Dianne Burdick, and discussion of ***Ma Baseema: Chaldean Middle Eastern Cooking with a Chaldean Flair*** (2 p.m.) with editor Jane Shallal.

In the children's tent: Reading by award-winning children's author **Deborah Diesen** (noon & 12:30 p.m.), who also leads a sing-along. The local

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husband-and-wife duo of illustrator **Erin Stead** and writer **Philip Stead** read from their Caldecott-winning ***A Sick Day for Amos McGee*** (1 p.m.). Local storyteller Trudy Bulkley tells stories as **Mother Goose** (2 p.m.). Heather O'Neal, owner of the local travel company Of Global Interest, tells true and fictional **stories about Nepal** (3 p.m.).

Outdoors in the Farmers Market: A **drawing workshop** (noon) for pre-teens with Ellie McDoodle books author and illustrator **Ruth McNally,** and **book workshops** with Hollander's School of Book and Paper Arts "GrandMaster" **Ruth Bardenstein** (1:30 p.m.) and book artist, binder, and conservator **Eric Alstrom** (3 p.m.). *11 a.m.–5 p.m., Farmers Market, Kerrytown Concert House, and Hollander's in Kerrytown. Free admission. 669–0451.*

★**"Odontoglossums": Ann Arbor Orchid Society.** New Visions Orchids (Indiana) owner Russ Vernon discusses how to grow the many species and hybrids of this handsome South American orchid. Also, an orchid show-and-tell, orchid sales, silent auction, raffle, and a chance to grill experts about problem plants. *1:45 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens auditorium, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 663–0756.*

★**Fall Festival: Westminster Presbyterian Church.** A family-oriented program of outdoor games and other activities. Picnic lunch. *12:30–2:30 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian, 1500 Scio Church Rd. Free. 761–9320.*

★**Sharon Mills Tours: Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.** *Sept. 11 & 18.* A WCPARC naturalist leads tours around this park on the River Raisin that features a newly operational hydroelectric generator, a beautiful multicolored stone house, a wooden mill, and a former winery, plus spots for fishing, canoeing, and picnicking. *1–4 p.m., Sharon Mills Park, 5701 Sharon Hollow Rd. (between Pleasant Lake & Sharon Valley rds.), Manchester. Free. 971–6337.*

★**Annual Picnic: Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy.** A family-oriented program with kids activities, an insect scavenger hunt, farm tours, and more. Bring a dish to pass and your own place setting; hot dogs, brats, veggie dogs, & soft drinks provided. *1–5 p.m. SMLC Farm, 8383 Vreeland Rd. (off N. Prospect between Ford Rd. & Geddes), Superior Twp. Free. Reservations required. 484–6565.*

★**Jewish Hikers of Michigan.** All invited to join an easy hike of 1.5–2 hours. Bring a backpack, munchies, and water. No pets. *1 p.m., North Bay Park (off Whittaker Rd. south from I-94, exit 183), Ypsilanti. Free. 883–9522.*

★**38th Anniversary Jamboree: Dawn Farm.** Live music by local funk-soul band **NoteWorthy**. Also, children's pony rides, a rock climbing wall, hayrides, farm tours, and other activities. Live and silent auctions and a sale of eggs, mums, and produce. Food available. Proceeds benefit Dawn Farm. *1–6 p.m., Dawn Farm, 6633 Stony Creek Rd., Ypsilanti. Free. 485–8725.*

★**"Comic Artists Forum": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local comics artist and graphic novelist **Jay Fosgitt,** author of the graphic novels *Dead Duck!* and *Little Green Men* and the all-ages comic *Bodie Troll,* presents a slide-illustrated talk on the evolution of his career, does some live sketching of his characters, and draws some caricatures of audience members. *1–3 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

Waterloo Natural History Association. *Sept. 11, 18, & 25. Sept. 11 (1:30–3 p.m.):* **"Incredible Edibles Walk."** WNHA wild foods expert Tom Jameson leads a 90-minute hike to learn about edible wild plants available locally and then prepares some wild food dishes (with recipes) to sample. *Sept. 18 (2–3 p.m.):* **"Reptiles Alive!"** Naturalist Paul McCormack displays live snakes, turtles, and other scaly critters, and discusses how they fit in their environment. *Sept. 25 (2–3:30 p.m.):* **"Medicinal Plants in Our Area."** Local physician and nutritionist Mary Ann Nirdlinger discusses historical and modern medicinal uses of plants and shows how to identify medicinal plants and make simple preparations at home. *Various times, Eddy Discovery Center lower parking lot, Bush Rd. (west off Pierce Rd. from I-94 exit 157), Chelsea. $2 (families, $5). Space limited; preregistration required. $10 annual vehicle entrance fee. 475–3170.*

★**"Tours of a Pioneer Grist Mill": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.** *Sept. 11, 18, & 25.* Guided tours of the 1873 Parker mill, where members of the Parker family ground pancake mix, feed, and flour until 1968, when the mill was purchased by the Matthaei family and sold to WCPARC. *2 & 3 p.m., Parker Mill County Park, Geddes Rd. (just east of US-23). Free. 971–6337, ext. 334.*

Kickoff Picnic: Ann Arbor Folkdancers. East European ethnic foods and folk dancing to live and recorded music. Beginners welcome; no partner necessary. *2–5:30 p.m., Wheeler Park, N. Fifth Ave. at Depot. (In case of rain, held in the barn at Gretchen's*

House V, 2625 Traver). Free admission; donation for food.

Old-Time Square Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. *Sept. 11 & 25.* Square dancing to live music. Beginners welcome. No partner necessary. *2–5 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). $8 (AACTMAD members, $7; students, $5; kids age 14 & under with a parent, free). 994–6494.*

★**Shape Note Singing: Ann Arbor Sacred Harp.** All invited to join an afternoon of shape note, or sacred harp, singing, a form of communal hymn singing that has its roots in colonial America. Sacred Harp songbooks available, but singers encouraged to bring their own. *2–5 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Free, but donations accepted for music scholarships. 678–7549, 761–1451.*

★**"9/11 Tribute Show": U-M Basement Arts.** Elizabeth Frankel directs U-M students in a show to commemorate 9/11. *Time TBA, U-M Walgreen Drama Center Studio 1, 1226 Murfin (North Campus). Free. basement.studentorgs.umich.edu*

★**Much Ado about Nothing: The 5-6-7-8 Summer Players.** Young local actors, ages 4–14, perform scenes from Shakespeare's sharp-tongued comedy about 2 pairs of young lovers. *3 p.m., Nicola's Books, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee": EMU Theatre Department. See 9 Friday. 3 p.m.

"The Light in the Piazza": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 8 Thursday. 3 p.m.

Sunday Matinee Puppet Show: Dreamland Theater. See 4 Sunday. 3:30 p.m.

★**Booked for Murder Mystery Book Club: Nicola's Books.** All invited to discuss 2 first novels by Canadian mystery writers. Louise Penny's ***Still Life*** is set in a small Canadian village whose residents are shocked by the discovery of the retired schoolteacher's body in the woods. Her death, first thought to be an accident, is determined to be murder when Chief Inspector Gamache is called in to investigate. Maureen Jennings' ***Except the Dying***, set in Toronto in 1895, follows the investigation of a maid found dead and naked in the snow. *4:30 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 769–2149.*

★**"Batwoman: Elegy": Rainbow Book Club.** All invited to join a discussion of Greg Rucka and J.H. Williams' comic book about a Jewish lesbian superhero who discovers her personal history is entwined with the leader of a crime-worshipping cult. *4:30–7 p.m., Jim Toy Community Center (formerly WRAP), 325 Braun Ct. Free. 763–4168.*

★**Carmen Pelton & Freda Herseth: U-M School of Music.** Soprano Pelton and mezzo-soprano Herseth—both U-M professors—perform Lee Hoiby's "Bermudas," a Braxton Blake song cycle, and a song cycle by accompanist **John Greer.** *5 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

★**Chen Yi: U-M School of Music.** This Chinese violin virtuoso—winner of the 2008 China International Violin Competition—is known for her technical wizardry, enchanting musical lines, and compelling stage presence. Program: Vivaldi's Sonata in A major, Beethoven's *Spring Sonata,* Mendelssohn's *On Wings of Song,* Kreisler's *Liebesleid* and *Schoen Rosmarin,* Sarasate's *Zapateado,* Paganini's *God Save the King,* and Waxman's *Carmen Fantasy. 5 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

12 MONDAY

★**Monday Club: Ann Arbor Salvation Army.** *Every Mon. except Sept. 5.* Drop-in social group for seniors age 55 & over. Every meeting includes a speaker, word game, craft, or activity. Also, **Bible study** and **chair exercises.** Followed by lunch (bring a bag lunch) and socializing. *10 a.m.–noon, Salvation Army, 100 Arbana. Free. 668–8353.*

★**Weekly Rehearsal: Women's Chamber Chorus.** *Every Mon. beginning Sept. 12.* All invited to join this independent 30-member local women's chorus to sing everything from Bach and Hungarian folk songs to madrigals and pop tunes. David Perample directs. *10–11:30 a.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh. Free to visitors ($100 per semester dues for those who join). 665–9271.*

★**"Playgroups for Babies": Ann Arbor District Library.** *Every Mon. beginning Sept. 12.* Playgroup for kids up to 24 months, accompanied by an adult. No older siblings. *Note:* Play days are also offered (beginning the week of Sept. 5) at the Malletts Creek (Tues., 10–11 a.m., & Thurs., 6:30–7:30 p.m.), Pittsfield (Wed., 11 a.m.–noon), and Traverwood (Fri., 10:30–11 a.m.) branches. *10:30–11:30 a.m., AADL, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301 (main library), 327–4200 (branches).*

★**"Fall into Fall": Ann Arbor District Library.** Leslie Science & Nature Center staff introduce fall to kids ages 2–5 with a puppet show and a live animal. *10:30–11:15 a.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–4555.*

U-M Club of Ann Arbor. *Sept. 12, 19, & 26.* Lunchtime talks by U-M head football coach Brady Hoke and other athletic coaches and staff members, including men's soccer coach **Steve Burns** (Sept. 12) and women's field hockey coach **Marcia Pankratz** (Sept. 19). *11:30 a.m.–1 p.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson. $9.50 (seniors age 65 & over, $9). 769–2500, 426–3092.*

★**Writing Group: U-M Turner Senior Resource Center.** *Every Mon. beginning Sept. 12.* All seniors invited to read and discuss poetry, essays, fiction, and reminiscences they have written. *1:30–2:30 p.m., Turner, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

★**"Casting for Fun": Trout Unlimited.** All adults and kids invited to try their hands at fly casting, with instructors available for guidance. Also, "casting golf," "catch the lawn trout," target practice, and door prizes. Beginners welcome. *6 p.m., Creekside Bar & Grill grounds, 5827 Jackson Rd. Free. mouradia@gmail.com.*

★**"Preserving Your Herbal Harvest": Evening Herb Study Group.** Talk by a club member TBA. *7 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free. 647–7600.*

★**"For Love of Lithuanian Weaving": Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild.** Noted Michigan weaving teacher Kati Reeder Meek discusses traditional Lithuanian weaving techniques. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by socializing. *7 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. Free. 665–0703.*

★**"On to Richmond: Michigan at the Battle of First Bull Run": Ann Arbor Civil War Round Table.** Talk by MSU history professor Roger Rosentreter. *7 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off McAuley Dr. from Huron River Dr.). Free. (517) 750–2741.*

"The Light Lecture Series": Ann Arbor Center of Light. *Every Mon. beginning Sept. 12.* Talks by Center of Light ministers Rev. Lela or Rev. Selena. *Sept. 12:* **"Meditation: The Basics and Beyond."** *Sept. 19:* **"Spiritual Ways to Improve Your Work Life."** *Sept. 26:* **"Tools for Healing Depression and Anxiety."** *7 p.m., Center of Light, 200 Huronview (off N. Main.) $8. 864–2017.*

★**"An Anatomy of Addiction: Sigmund Freud, William Halsted, and the Miracle Drug Cocaine": Ann Arbor District Library.** U-M communicable diseases professor **Howard Markel** discusses his new book (see 8 Thursday listing). Signing. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"Washtenaw County Community Resources": National Alliance on Mental Illness of Washtenaw County.** Talk by Community Support and Treatment Services housing and resource specialist Beth Lampe. *7:30–9 p.m., King of Kings Lutheran Church, 2685 Packard. Free. 994–6611.*

★**Large Ensemble Meeting: Ann Arbor Recorder Society.** All beginning and advanced players of the recorder and other early instruments invited. Directed by local flutist Tim Tikker. Music provided; bring your own music stand. *7:30–9:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Free to visitors ($30 annual dues for those who join). 274–9463.*

Tartan & Thistle Scottish Country Dancers. *Every Mon. except Sept. 5.* A wide range of traditional and contemporary Scottish dances, with live music. All dances taught, with emphasis on technique on the 3rd Monday. *7:30–9:30 p.m., location TBA. $5. 395–7782, 769–1052, 426–0241.*

13 TUESDAY

★**Coffee Break: Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church.** *Every Tues. beginning Sept. 13.* All women invited to study the Bible with other American and international women in small, informal groups. Also, Bible stories and fun activities for preschoolers, and child care provided for babies. *9:45–11:15 a.m. & 1:15–2:45 p.m., Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church, 1717 Broadway. Free. 665–0105.*

★**"Thyme for Thanks": Good Thyme Garden Club.** Club member Cathy Koning shares what she learned from a master gardener course the club partially sponsored her for last year. *10 a.m.–noon, Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. Free. 944–9131.*

"Meet Arie Lipsky": U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Distinguished Lecture Series. Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra music director and conductor Lipsky discusses his career, offers a brief lesson in conducting, and plays his cello and flute. First in a series of 9 monthly lectures. *10–11:30 a.m., Best Western Executive Conference Center, 2900 Jackson Rd. $65 (members, $45) for the 9-lecture series. Memberships are $20 a year. Preregistration required. 998–9351.*

★**Brown Bag Lecture: U-M Institute for the Humanities.** *Sept. 13, 20, & 27.* Bring a bag lunch. *Sept. 13:* U-M architecture professor Amy Kulper discusses

COMING SOON! MICHIGAN THEATER

Nicola's Books presents
A CONVERSATION & BOOK SIGNING with JENNIFER GRANHOLM
SEP 27 at 7:30 PM
Tickets at ticketweb.com or 866-468-3401

JOHN HIATT & THE COMBO with BIG HEAD TODD & THE MONSTERS
OCT 5 at 7:30 PM
PRESENTED BY LIVE NATION
Tickets on sale at Ticketmaster.com and all Ticketmaster outlets. Charge by phone: 800-745-3000

JOAN BAEZ
NOV 1 at 7:30 PM
PRESENTED BY The Ark
Tickets on sale at Ticketmaster.com and all Ticketmaster outlets. Charge by phone: 734-763-TKTS

THE CIVIL WARS
PRESENTED BY The Ark

NOV 2 at 7:30 PM
Tickets on sale at Ticketmaster.com and all Ticketmaster outlets. Charge by phone: 734-763-TKTS

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FALL LEAF MANAGEMENT OPTIONS

www.a2gov.org/leaves

① Feed your lawn with leaves by using a mulching mower!

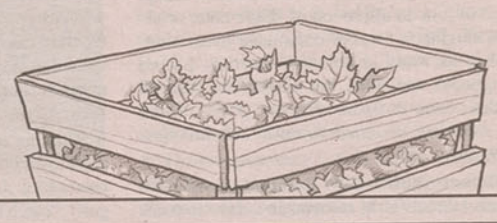
You don't have to rake and bag leaves this fall—use a mulching mower instead. Faculty at the Turf Research Institute at Michigan State University successfully tested using mowers to mulch over 18" of dry leaves into the turf with healthy results for the lawn year after year. Consult the web at www.a2gov.org/leaves for leaf mulching reports and videos from Scotts Lawn Care, MSU and others. Mulching leaves is a great option for properties with lots of trees and is commonly used by many golf course operators.

② Use the city's weekly Compostable pickup service from April through mid-December (Dec. 16, 2011). Use bags or a compost cart for weekly compostable pickups.

Place leaves in large paper bags or use optional compost carts to set at the curb before 7 a.m. on the neighborhood weekly solid waste collection day. Compost carts may be purchased for a one-time charge of $50 each for any size (32-, 64-, or 96-gallon cart) from the city's Customer Service & Payment Center, located in Larcom City Hall, 310 E. Huron, open weekdays 8-5, 734.994.2807. Cart information is posted online at www.a2gov.org/carts.

③ Compost at home.

An easy outdoor composting recipe is provided at www.a2gov.org/compost.



④ Fall leaf drop-off options for City of Ann Arbor Properties:

- **Free unlimited leaf drop off between September 1 to December 30, 2011 at the Ann Arbor Compost Center, 4150 Platt Road, open Mon-Fri, 8-4 p.m. 734.794.6380** from city residents, Ann Arbor commercial properties, and/or their contracted landscapers/haulers. To deliver leaves, please follow site signs and drive across the city's recycling plant (MRF) scale. Stop at the scalehouse window to show proof of Ann Arbor residency (drivers license and current water bill). Haulers follow a slightly different process, described online at www.a2gov.org/leaves). The free drop-off is for Ann Arbor leaves, only. Other types of yard wastes—or leaves from non-Ann Arbor locations—are charged $15/cubic yard.

- **Free leaf and other compostables drop-off, year-round, of up to one cubic yard (or 6 yard waste bags) at Recycle Ann Arbor's Drop-Off Station (DOS), 2950 E. Ellsworth, 734.971.7400, open Tues. and Thurs. 8:30-6:30 and Sat, 9-6** from Ann Arbor residents. To be eligible for the free yard waste drop-off and to waive the $3 DOS entry fee, Ann Arbor residents must show proof of residency with a driver's license and a current water bill at the gatehouse window.

Frequently-Asked Questions

Why don't we store bulk leaves in the streets?

In 2010 the City of Ann Arbor transitioned away from providing two bulk street leaf pickup days per neighborhood to expanding the weekly curbside compost pickups to accommodate unlimited bagged leaves through mid-December. The benefits include:

- Providing weekly curbside leaf pickups instead of relying on two seasonal street collections.
- Avoiding problems with vehicles parking over leaves on the pickup day, impeding truck collection access, and resulting in complaints from neighborhoods with street leaves left behind for a season.
- Preventing leaves from clogging storm drains, which leads to neighborhood flooding and results in pollutants entering the Huron River, which is the primary source of the city's drinking water.
- Increasing the efficiency of leaf collection by not deploying additional specialized vehicles and staff to pick up bulk leaves.
- Increasing safety for bicyclists along marked bike lanes and other streets.
- Responding to seasonal weather variations. If warm, dry weather delays the leaf-drop or early snowfall reduces the opportunity for street collection at the end of the season, every resident gets the same weekly access to leaf pickup each year.

What are other alternatives to raking leaves to put into bags or compost carts for weekly pickup?

To eliminate raking, some people mow over leaves with the bag attached and then empty the bag into paper yard waste bags or compost carts. Some leaf blowers can be reversed to be able to vacuum and chop leaves. The partially-shredded leaves can also be used as mulch around garden and landscape areas. Home composting is another option.

I want my lawn care service to haul away my leaves. May we rake the leaves into the street and store for a week or so until the service picks them up?

No. If you decide to use a hauling service, you may store the leaves on your extension but not in the street.

What about naturally-falling leaves in the street? Do I have to pick up every leaf?

No. The city's street sweeping machines can handle normal amounts of leaf-fall under street trees but cannot sweep up piles of leaves.

I am not required to use a compost cart for my leaves, correct?

Correct! Paper yard waste bags may be used for leaves and other yard debris. The optional Compost Carts provide convenience in being able to roll around the yard while working. Those who choose to purchase and use a city-approved compost cart may also include more types of materials for composting—grass clippings, fruit and vegetable scraps, and uncoated paper plates, cups, and napkins for municipal collection and processing. Paper yard waste bags are not appropriate for holding these additional heavy, wet materials that easily leak and break through paper bags at the curb and can attract unwanted wildlife. Just a reminder, plastic bags are not accepted for leaves and yard waste because the contents easily go anaerobic and smell sour, and create lots of compost site operation problems. Plastic bags, however, continue to be acceptable for holding refuse in trash carts.

Sign up for free e-mail announcements on fall leaf collection updates from the City of Ann Arbor via GovDelivery at **www.a2gov.org/leaves**

"Immanent Natures." *Sept. 20:* U-M English grad student Ben Gunsberg on **"Technological Enchantment and Literacy in the Digital Age."** *Sept. 27:* U-M Sidman Fellow in the Arts Mark Dion, an artist known for his use of scientific presentations in his installations, discusses the making of ***Waiting for the Extraordinary,*** his new installation in the Institute of Humanities gallery (see Galleries). *Noon–1:30 p.m., 202 S. Thayer, room 2022. Free. 936–3518.*

★**"Late Anti-Fascism: Moral Certainty and the Cold War Cultural Left": U-M College of Literature, Science, & the Arts.** Lecture by U-M English and American culture professor Alan Wald. Reception follows. *4:10 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater. Free. 998–6251.*

"Perfect Pairings: A Dueling Chefs Challenge": Vinology. Tastings of 6 dishes inspired by wine and cheese pairings created by 6 local chefs. Participants vote for their favorite dish. Proceeds benefit Avalon Housing. *5:30–7:30 p.m., Vinology, 110 S. Main. Tickets $25 in advance only. 222–9841.*

★**"Everest Base Camp Trek": The Himalayan Bazaar.** Local adventure tour owner Heather O'Neal, who regularly travels to the Himalayas, shows a travel video about the Everest base camp. Also, information about an upcoming 3-week trip to Nepal. *7 p.m., Himalayan Bazaar, 218 S. Main. Free. 997–7229.*

★**Fantasy and Science Fiction/Theory Reading Group: U-M English Department.** All age 21 & over invited to discuss ***The Dispossessed: An Ambiguous Utopia,*** Ursula K. Le Guin's sci-fi classic about a brilliant physicist's attempt to save his anarchist world by venturing to the utopian mother planet Urras. *7–9 p.m., 3154 Angell Hall. Free. 764–2553.*

★**Health Talks: People's Food Co-op.** *Sept. 13 & 22.* Talks by local experts. *Sept. 13:* Raw foods advocate Ellen Livingston on **"Low Fat Raw Vegan."** *Sept. 22:* Holistic health practitioner Linda Diane Feldt on **"Nourishing vs. Medicinal Herbs."** *7–8:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required at the co-op, by emailing outreach@peoplesfood.coop, or by phone. 994–4589.*

★**Weekly Rehearsal: Treetown Community Chorus.** *Every Tues. beginning Sept. 13.* All invited to join this fun-loving independent local mixed chorus to sing mostly familiar tunes, along with some serious music, in various genres. David Perample directs. *7:30–9 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh. Free to visitors ($80 per semester dues for those who join). 355–7738.*

★**Sierra Club Book Club: Nicola's Books.** All invited to discuss Peter Rogers and Susan Leal's ***Running Out of Water: The Looming Crisis and Solutions to Conserve Our Most Precious Resource.*** *7:30 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 971–1157.*

Peter Collins: Kerrytown Concert House. This national and international award-winning pianist who studied under U-M piano professor Louis Nagel performs Franz Liszt's uplifting and virtuosic *Transcendental Etudes. 8 p.m. KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $10–$25 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

14 WEDNESDAY

★**Noon Lectures: U-M Center for Russian & East European Studies.** *Sept. 14 & 28.* Bring a bag lunch, if you like. *Sept. 14:* U-M Slavic languages & literatures professor Olga Maiorova discusses **"Reimagining the East: Russian Discourse on Asia in the Middle of the 19th Century."** *Sept. 28:* NYU Russian and Slavic studies professor Jane Burbank on **"Normalizing Russian: The Empire Effect."** *Noon–1:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–0351.*

★**"Group Drumming: Music for the Health of It": U-M Turner Senior Resource Center.** All seniors invited to join music and health consultant Dianne Baker for drumming and singing. Drums provided. *1:30–2:30 p.m., Turner, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

★**"SHARP Insights: How Title IX Changed the Game": U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender.** Talk by biographer **Susan Ware,** author of *Game, Set, Match: Billie Jean King and the Revolution in Women's Sports. 4–5:30 p.m., 1755 SPH I, 1415 Washington Hts. Free. 764–9537.*

★**"The Big Scrum: How Teddy Roosevelt Saved Football": U-M Clements Library.** U-M grad John J. Miller discusses his new book. *4 p.m., Clements Library, 909 South University. Free. 764–2347.*

★**"Reading the Popular Chinese Print": UMMA.** Lecture by U-M Center for Chinese Studies researcher Ellen Johnston Laing. In conjunction with the current exhibit, *Multiple Impressions: Contemporary Chinese Woodblock Prints. 5 p.m., UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 763–UMMA.*

Yellow Barn Benefit. With local and regional performers, including ambient and experimental indie pop by the one-man band **The Saturday Giant,** folk-rock by veteran singer-songwriter **Dave Boutette,** experimental folk-rock-funk by Irish bouzouki player **Douglas Lane Allen,** lyric-based folk-rock by the local acoustic quartet **The Appleseed Collective,** and an improv dance-poem by **Megan Sims.** All proceeds benefit The Yellow Barn, a community music center. *5 p.m.–midnight, The Yellow Barn, 416 W. Huron. $10 donation. 834–2488.*

★**Prairie Tour: Wild Ones.** Local master gardener Aunita Erskine leads a hike through the Shanghai Prairie to look at native wildflowers. *5:30–7:30 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, meet at the picnic area parking lot opposite staff parking area D at McAuley Dr. Free. 604–4674.*

"Cornman Farms Dinner: Fall Bounty": Zingerman's Roadhouse. Zingerman's Roadhouse chef Alex Young hosts a dinner showcasing heirloom fruits and vegetables from his garden. *7 p.m., Zingerman's Roadhouse, 2501 Jackson. $45. Reservations required. 663–3663.*

★**Channeled Spiritual Discussion Group: Deep Spring Center.** All invited to share their spiritual and metaphysical questions with others with similar interests. The evening is led by Aaron, a "being of light" channeled by Barbara Brodsky, who begins the evening with a talk based on his and Brodsky's book *Cosmic Healing.* Also, socializing. *7–9:30 p.m., Deep Spring Center, 3003 Washtenaw, Suite 2 (next to Arby's; entry on Glenwood). Free, but donations are accepted. 477–5848.*

★**"A Visit to Prairy Erth: The Flint Hills": Pittsfield Grange.** Huron-Clinton Metroparks environmental engineer Ron Gamble and WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner discuss the last undisturbed tallgrass prairie of Kansas. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by a potluck. *7 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). Free. 699–7623.*

★**"Fall Management": Ann Arbor Backyard Beekeepers.** All beekeepers invited to discuss how to determine if bees are ready for winter, if pests and pathogens pose a threat, and last-minute interventions to aid in the hive's survival. *7 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, room 125, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 660–8621.*

★**"Karma and Reincarnation: Unlocking Your 800 Lives to Enlightenment": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** Spiritual Arts Institute (L.A.) cofounder Barbara Y. Martin discusses this book she cowrote with Dimitri Moraitis. Signing. *7–8:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★**"In God's Shadow": Nicola's Books.** Lansing writer **Douglas Gershon Moffat** reads from and discusses his new coming-of-age novel about a family swept up in the biblical Exodus. Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's Books, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**Fiction Book Club: Barnes & Noble.** All invited to join a discussion of ***Go Tell It on a Mountain,*** James Baldwin's powerful portrait of a churchgoing African American family in Harlem whose members conceal shadowy pasts. Refreshments. *7 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★**"Rhythms of Cuba": Ann Arbor District Library.** Cuban jazz by **Tumbao Bravo,** an award-winning local quintet led by local saxophonist and flutist Paul VornHagen and percussionist Alberto Nacif. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**Ann Arbor Garden Club.** All invited to join a discussion about **vegetables.** *7:30 p.m., Beecher residence, call for directions. Free. 788–3298.*

★**History Readers Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** Club member Lois Maharg leads a discussion of Anne Harrington's ***The Cure Within: A History of Mind-Body Medicine.*** *7:30 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 369–2499.*

★**"Software Defined Radio": ARROW Communications Association.** Talk by club member George Byrkit. *7:30–9 p.m. Washtenaw County Red Cross (classrooms B & C), 4624 Packard. Free. 930–6564.*

15 THURSDAY

"Canada: Learning From and About our Neighbor": U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. *Every Thurs. (except Sept. 29), Sept. 15–Oct. 27.* A series of 6 weekly lectures by different U-M and guest scholars. *Sept. 15:* University of Windsor interdisciplinary programs coordinator Larry Kulisek presents **"Confessions of a Border Community: Windsor, Ontario, Canada."** *Sept. 22:* University of Windsor political science professor Stephen Brooks on **"Why Do Many Quebeckers Want Their Country and Will They Get It?"** *Oct. 6:* U-M sociology research scientist Ian Robinson on **"The Labo(u)r Movement and Canadian Politics."** *Oct. 13:* U-M English professor emeritus Lyall Powers on **"Canadian Prose and Poetry."** *Oct. 20:* University of Windsor political science professor Cheryl Collier on **"Health Care in Canada: Crisis? What Crisis?"** *Oct. 27:* Consul General of Canada to Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, & Kentucky Roy Norton on **"The State of Canada-USA Relations."** *10–11:30 a.m., Best Western Executive Conference Center, 2900 Jackson Rd. $50 (members, $30) for the 6-lecture series. Memberships are $20 a year. Preregistration required. 998–9351.*

★**U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies.** *Sept. 15 & 22. Sept. 15:* U-M Judaic studies professor Zvi Gitelman discusses **"Uncertain Ethnicity: Construing Jewishness in Russia and Ukraine."** *Sept. 22:* University of Haifa professor Sammy Smooha on **"Are Palestinian-Arab Citizens in the Jewish State a Ticking Time Bomb?"** *Noon, 202 S. Thayer, Room 2022. Free. 763–9047.*

★**Fall Reception: International Neighbors.** A chance for all area women to meet and socialize with women from more than 80 countries and to sign up for various activities throughout the year, including English conversation and discussion groups, tea groups, and special interest groups such as quilting, knitting, and painting. International Neighbors is a 53-year-old group of local women who welcome women from other countries during their stays in Ann Arbor. Nursery care provided for preschoolers. Refreshments. *1–3 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church social hall, 1500 Scio Church Rd. Free. 995–1645.*

★**"Art of the Continental Army": Daughters of the American Revolution.** Talk by club member Beverly Barton. *1 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 975–1976.*

★**"Gender and Jewish History": U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender.** Susan Juster, Kader Konuk, and Magdalena Zaborowska—all U-M professors—discuss U-M Judaic studies professor Deborah Dash Moore's 2010 book. *3–5 p.m., 2239 Lane Hall, 204 S. State. Free. 764–9537.*

★**"Conversations on Europe": U-M Center for European Studies.** *Sept. 15 & 29. Sept. 15:* University of Athens law professor N.C. Alivizatos discusses **"Who Decides in Last Resort? Elected Officials and Judges in Historical Perspective."** *Sept. 29:* U-M history professor Pamela Ballinger on **"Between Empire and Gaddafi: Italian Settlers in Libya, 1943–1960."** *4–5:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 647–2743.*

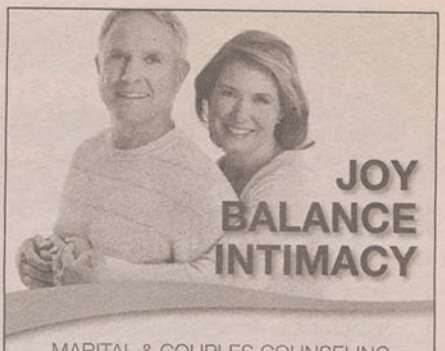
★**"8 Steps to a Pain Free Back": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** Renowned back pain therapist Esther Gokhale discusses her award-winning book. Signing. *5 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★**U-M School of Art & Design Penny Stamps Lecture Series.** *Sept. 15, 22, & 29.* Popular series of talks by visiting artists and experts. *Sept. 15:* **"Futurology: Optimism and Failure."** Sci-fi writer and *Boing Boing* blog editor Cory Doctorow, nonfiction writer Mark Stevenson, and biotechnology designer James King discuss emerging technologies that have the power to transform society, for better or worse. *Sept. 22:* Francois Delaroziere, artistic director of the French street theater company La Machine, discusses **"Movement as Creative Motion."** His latest show features a 37-ton mechanical spider. *Sept. 29:* Public artist Mark Dion discusses **"Follies in Public Art."** He is known for his large-scale projects, such as a huge sleeping bear sculpture on a Norwegian hill that contains material culture from as far back as the Neolithic. He is currently working on the redesign of the Seattle waterfront. *5 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 647–2337.*

★**U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series.** See 8 Thursday. Today: Readings by 2 award-winning U-M creative writing alumni, poet **Derek Mong** and novelist **Jesmyn Ward.** Mong's poems explore an eclectic range of topics, including eating contests, jetliners, and Fellini films. His debut collection, *Other Romes*, provoked the renowned poet (and U-M English professor) Linda Gregerson to observe, "Austerity and extravagance: but for the evidence of this beautiful book, one would have thought the marriage doomed to fail." Ward, who grew up in DeLisle (MS), received the ALA Black Caucus Honor Award for her first novel, *Where the Line Bleeds*, which U-M English professor Peter Ho Davies, an award-winning fiction writer, calls a "vibrant portrait of a Mississippi Gulf Coast town . . . peopled by some of the most movingly, achingly human characters I've encountered in fiction in years." Her 2nd novel, *Salvage the Bones*, was published in August. 5:10 p.m.

★**"Stapp Nature Area": Ann Arbor District Library.** City naturalist William Kirst discusses techniques to remove invasive species from local natural areas and leads a family-friendly trek to this natural area adjacent to the AADL Traverwood Branch to learn to identify and pull out invasive plants. *6–7:30 p.m., meet by the park restrooms in the parking lot off Fuller across from Huron High School. Free. 327–8301.*

"Suds on the River": Huron River Watershed Council Fundraiser. This festive, laid-back evening features food from area restaurants, canoe rides, fly fishing demos, s'mores around the campfire, and an array of beers from microbreweries in the Huron River watershed, including Arbor Brewing, Jolly Pumpkin, Blue Tractor, Grizzly Peak, and Wolverine. *6–9*



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FALL 2011
SESSION I & II

Tuesdays 6:15 pm - 7:05 pm
Thursdays 6:15 pm - 7:05 pm
Saturdays 10:15 am - 11:05 am

FALL 2011

Session I - Sept 6 thru Oct 22
Session II - Oct 25 thru Dec 17

Registration began August 1

Sorry, no phone registrations

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$20 discount if you enroll for both Session I & II by August 30th

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COME TO PACKET-PICK UP ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21 AND STICK AROUND IF YOU'RE NOT SCARED!!!

films

Note: Most educational documentaries are listed with the daily Events.

Ann Arbor Center of Light. FREE. 864–2017. 200 Huronview (off N. Main), 7 p.m.

Sept. 16: **"Big Bucks, Big Pharma: Marketing Disease & Pushing Drugs"** (Media Education Foundation, 2006). Documentary about the pharmaceutical industry. Discussion follows. 8 p.m.

Ann Arbor Docu Fest. Screening of a different documentary film every Mon. FREE. 929–9979. Café Ambrosia, 326 Maynard, 7 p.m.

Sept. 12: **"9/11: Explosive Evidence—Experts Speak Out"** (Architects & Engineers for 9/11 Truth, 2011). More than 50 scientists offer evidence undermining the official version of what happened to the Twin Towers on 9/11.

Sept. 19: **"Lifting the Veil: Obama and the Failure of Capitalist Democracy"** (Scott Noble, 2011). Documentary exploring the capitalist context of the historic role of the Democratic Party as the "graveyard of social movements."

Sept. 26: **"Burzynski: The Movie"** (Eric Merola, 2011). Documentary about Stanislaw Burzynski, a Houston physician and biochemist who won a convoluted and intriguing 14-year legal battle against the FDA, which had tried to stop him from using apparently effective but unapproved gene-targeted cancer medicines he had invented.

Ann Arbor District Library. FREE. 327–4555. AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave., various times.

Sept. 13: **"The Illusionist"** (Sylvain Chomet, 2010). Oscar-nominated animated adaptation of a Jacques Tati screenplay about an aging unemployed French magician who meets a young fan who changes his life. 7 p.m.

Sept. 22: **"Blueprint America: Beyond the Motor City"** (PBS, 2010). Documentary about the role of mass transit in the future of transportation in America. Followed by a discussion led by U-M Community Scholars Program faculty and students. 6–8:30 p.m.

Sept. 27: **"Shouting Fire: Stories from the Edge of Free Speech"** (Liz Garbus, 2009). Acclaimed HBO documentary about the evolution of the concept of free speech. 7 p.m.

Ann Arbor Film Festival. Prices vary. 995–5356. Various times & different locations.

Sept. 22: **"Near the Big Chakra"** (1971) and other short films by Anne Severson. Extreme close-ups of 38 vulvas, intended as an educational film for women. **Following the screening, a live interview with Severson.** Part of the AAFF 50th Retrospective Screening Series. Tickets: $10 (students, seniors, MI Theater members, $7; AAFF members, $5). Michigan Theater. 7 p.m.

Sept. 24: **"At Sea"** (Peter Hutton, 2007). Silent film that depicts the birth, life, and death of a container ship. Suggested $5 donation. 327 Braun Court. 8 p.m.

Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. $5 suggested donation. 327–0270. 704 Airport Blvd., 8 p.m.

Sept. 17: **"Spiritual Cinema."** Screening of a feature film or several shorts TBA with spiritual themes. Followed by discussion.

Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. FREE. 994–3387. Jewel Heart (1129 Oak Valley Dr. between Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. & Ellsworth), 7 p.m.

Sept. 30: **"Genghis Blues"** (Roko Belic, 1999). Documentary of a San Francisco blues musician's adventurous trip to Central Asia to learn the ancient art of throat singing. Tuvan, subtitles. Followed by discussion.

Michigan Theater Foundation. Unless there is a live show in the main theater, 2 or 3 different films are shown, usually twice, almost every night. For complete, updated schedules, see michtheater.org or call 668–TIME. Tickets (unless otherwise noted): $9 (children under 12, students with ID, seniors age 55 & older, & U.S. veterans, $7; MTF members, $6.50; Wed., $6). Michigan Theater, times TBA unless otherwise noted.

Sept. 2-8: **"Senna"** (Asif Kapadia, 2010). Documentary about the life and early death of Brazilian racing driver Ayrton Senna. **"The Guard"** (John Michael McDonagh, 2011). Comedy about a small-town Irish cop.

Sept. 4 & 6: **"Amelie"** (Jean-Pierre Jeunet, 2001). Charming tale of a Parisian waitress determined to improve the lives of those around her, including a despotic grocer, a kindly stripper, and a hypochondriacal tobacconist. 1:30 (Sept. 4) & 7 p.m. (Sept. 6).

Sept. 5: **"Psycho"** (Alfred Hitchcock, 1960). Classic suspense thriller set in a motel run by a peculiar mama's boy. Anthony Perkins, Janet Leigh. 7 p.m.

Sept. 9: **"Flight of the Navigator"** (Randal Kleiser, 1986). Animated Disney fantasy about a 12-year-old boy abducted by an alien space craft. Kids under 12, free; adults in PJs, $1 discount. 10 p.m.

Sept. 9-15: **"The Future"** (Miranda July, 2011). Drama about a couple who changes the future by adopting a stray cat.

Sept. 11: **"Mooz-Lum"** (Qasim Basir, 2010). Drama about an African American Muslim family whose lives are changed by the aftermath of 9/11. Danny Glover. 2 p.m.

Sept. 11 & 13: **"Breakfast at Tiffany's"** (Blake Edwards, 1961). Classic, stylish romantic comedy-fantasy about a hard-edged, independent young woman and a man with an iffy background who find love in the big city. Audrey Hepburn, George Peppard, Patricia Neal. 1:30 (Sept. 11) & 7 p.m. (Sept. 13).

Sept. 12: **"Precious Knowledge"** (Ari Palos, 2011). Documentary about the civil rights battle between the students and teachers of Tucson High School's Mexican American Studies Program and Arizona lawmakers who are trying to shut the program down. 7 p.m.

Sept. 16-22: **"Point Blank"** (Fred Cavayé, 2010). Action-thriller about a nurse who must rescue his kidnapped wife after he saves the life of a criminal.

Sept. 18: **"Ariel & Zoey & Eli Too."** The singing trio of local 12-year-old twins Ariel and Zoey Engelbert and their 9-year-old brother Eli host the premiere of clips from the 2nd season of their nationally syndicated TV show and perform some of their songs. Proceeds benefit U-M Mott Children's Hospital. $5. 4 p.m.

Sept. 18 & 22: **"Life in a Day"** (Kevin Macdonald, 2011). Documentary shot by filmmakers around the world to chronicle life on July 24, 2010. 7 p.m.

Sept. 19: **"The Killing"** (Stanley Kubrick, 1956). Unusual story about an elaborate racetrack robbery. 7 p.m.

Sept. 20: **"Pearl Jam Twenty"** (Cameron Crowe, 2011). Documentary, 20 years in the making, about the onstage and offstage career of the influential Seattle rock band. Tickets available in advance at ticketweb.com and at the door. 7 & 9:45 p.m.

Sept. 23-29: **"Names of Love"** (Michel Leclerc, 2010). Comedy about an activist who converts opponents by sleeping with them. **"Submarine"** (Richard Ayoade, 2010). Dramatic comedy about a teenager trying to get a girlfriend and save his parents' marriage.

Sept. 25: **"James & the Giant Peach"** (Henry Selick, 1996). Adaptation of Roald Dahl's fantasy novel about an orphaned boy left with 2 cruel aunts who, after being rescued by a mysterious fellow, ends up drifting across the Atlantic in a giant peach in the company of a variety of engaging anthropomorphized insects. A superb mix of live action, stop-motion animation, and computer-generated special effects, the film also features a memorable Randy Newman score. Kids under 12, free. 1:30 p.m.

Sept. 26: **"Paths of Glory"** (Stanley Kubrick, 1957). Acclaimed, stinging indictment of military hierarchy, set during WWI, about officers in plush quarters safely behind the lines where grunts die in trenches. Kirk Douglas, Ralph Meeker, Adolphe Menjou. 7 p.m.

Sept. 29: **"Manhattan Short Film Festival"** (various directors, 2011). Screening of the 2011 finalists from arguably the largest short film festival in the world. Followed by a chance to vote for your favorite. 7:30 p.m.

Temple Beth Emeth "Movie Wednesday." FREE. 665–4744. 2309 Packard, 1 p.m. Snacks. Child care available with advance notice.

Sept. 21: **"Annie Hall"** (Woody Allen, 1977). A witty, semiautobiographical romantic comedy, often considered Allen's best film. Woody Allen, Diane Keaton.

U-M Center for Japanese Studies. The theme for this year's fall film series is "Color." FREE. 764–6307. Angell Hall Auditorium A (enter through the doors facing the Diag), 7 p.m.

Sept. 30: **"13 Assassins"** (Takashi Miike, 2010). Remake of a bloody 1963 samurai film about revenge and liberation.

UMMA 3rd Annual Romanian Film Festival. Romanian, subtitles. FREE. 763–UMMA. 525 S. State, various times.

Sept. 17: **"Crossing Dates"** (Anca Damian, 2009). Three separate stories that unfold over the course of 2 days, with characters whose paths intersect and unwittingly affect one another. 3:30 p.m. **"Wedding in Bessarabia"** (Nap Toader, 2010). Comedy about newlyweds who travel to the wife's homeland of Moldova to receive gifts and money they desperately need to start their new life together in Romania. 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 24: **"Red Apples"** (Alexandru Tatos, 1976). Drama about a young urologist who keeps banging heads with his superiors over both medical and ethical problems. The program begins with a talk by the film's **composer Cornel Taranu** on the score and his collaboration with Tatos. 3:30 p.m. **"Award-Winning Shorts"** (various directors). ***The Boxing Lesson*** concerns a businessman who takes his son to boxing classes so he won't get beaten up at school. ***bric brac*** is about a film director who tries to persuade his lead actor to continue working despite the actor's qualms about a scene's similarity to a violent argument with his girlfriend. ***Derby*** is about a 15-year-old girl who discovers her boyfriend supports a different football team. ***Caviar*** tells the story of a man and his daughter who start a trip to Bucharest on the morning before Christmas to deliver caviar to a wealthy lady. ***Lord*** is about a guy who makes money finding lost animals and extorting large sums of money from their owners for their return. ***The Cage*** is about a family whose life is turned upside down when the son brings home an injured pigeon. 7:30 p.m.

U-M Japanese Animation Film Society. U-M campus admission policy: No one under 18 admitted without an adult. FREE. umichanime.com. MLB, 812 E. Washington at Thayer, 4 p.m.–midnight.

Sept. date TBA: **"Animania."** Monthly anime-a-thon of feature films and episodes from TV series.

WCBN-FM. FREE admission. 763–3500. Arbor Brewing Company (114 E. Washington), 8:30 p.m.

Sept. 14: **"The Muppet Movie"** (James Frawley, 1979). Heartwarming road movie mockumentary about the way the Muppets first met is highlighted by a steamy yet discreet love scene between Kermit and Miss Piggy.

p.m., location TBA. Tickets $100 (members, $75) in advance only. 769–5123, ext. 605.

★"From Max to Macs": U-M Health Sciences Library. U-M medical illustrators discuss the history of medical illustration from the pioneering early 20th-century medical illustrators like Max Broedel to the digital tools of the 21st century, and offer a hands-on demo of various artistic tools. *6–8 p.m., 1135 E. Catherine. Free. 936–1394.*

★Exercise Talks: Washtenaw Whole Foods Market. *Sept. 15 & 26.* Talks by local health practitioners. *Sept. 15:* Chiropractor Darren Schmidt on **"How to Get the Most Out of Your Exercise Routine."** *Sept. 26:* Nutrition expert and certified Pilates instructor Kerry Cradit on **"Move Your Body with Pilates."** *7–8 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyles Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Preregistration required. 975–4500.*

★"Nothing More to Tell": Nicola's Books. Ludington fiction writer **George Dila** reads from and discusses his new collection of stories exploring the varying effects of history, family, and society on men and women living in Michigan small towns and big cities. Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's Books, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★Kelsey Museum Tour: Michigan Archaeological Society. Docent-led tour of the museum's collections. *7:30 p.m., U-M Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, 424 S. State. Free. (248) 437–4183.*

★"The White House Message Machine: How It Spins Faster Than Ever": U-M Ford Presidential Library. McClatchy Newspapers senior White House correspondent **Steven Thomma** discusses the ways the White House uses technology and media to tell its story to the public. Reception follows. *7:30 p.m., Ford Library, 1000 Beal, North Campus. Free. 205–0555.*

English Country Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Historical and traditional English dancing to live music by Baton Rouge multi-instrumentalist Kendall Rogers and local fiddler Brad Battey & friends. All dances taught. No partner or experience needed. Bring flat, nonslip shoes (running shoes OK). *7:30–10:30 p.m., 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). $8 (students, $5; kids age 13 & under with a parent, free). 408–1018.*

"The Light in the Piazza": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 8 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

★Elias Goldstein: U-M School of Music. This violist, 2nd place winner of the 2011 Primrose Prize, performs works by Beethoven, Benjamin, and Paganini. With accompanist Katherine Collier. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0594.*

"Avenue Q": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. *Sept. 15–18.* Wendy Sielaff directs local actors in Robert Lopez and Tony Marx's 2003 Tony-winning *Sesame Street*–inspired musical about a group of young friends in outer borough NYC struggling to find jobs, dates, and their ever-elusive purpose in life. The characters are portrayed by actors and puppets operated by onstage actors. *New York Times* theater critic Ben Brantley describes its score as "sweetly satiric homages to the instructional ditties of *Sesame Street*." Cast: Nick Bringardner, Kelly Fandrey, Andrew Szykula, Bob Cox, Erik Wright-Olsen, Marci Rosenberg, Catherine Cypert, Connor Rhodes, Jeff Foust, Lisa Lee, Keisha Oliver, and others. *8 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theater, 911 N. University. Tickets $22 (seniors, $20; students, $12) in advance at a2ct.org, by phone, and at the door. 971–2228.*

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

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16 FRIDAY

★"Kleist Ancient and Modern": U-M German Department. A series of panel discussions and a concluding roundtable discussion with scholars from around the country on the legacy of the early 19th-century German poet, playwright, and fiction writer Heinrich von Kleist. *9 a.m.–5 p.m., 3308 MLB, 812 E. Washington. Free. 764–8018.*

"Tiny Tot Time": Leslie Science & Nature Center. A program of hikes, storytelling, songs, puppets, and crafts for kids ages 1–3 (accompanied by a caregiver). Snacks provided; dress for the outdoors. *10–11:30 a.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. $7. 997–1553.*

Michigan Adidas Invitational: U-M Women's Volleyball. *Sept. 16 & 17.* The U-M plays matches on Sept. 16 against **Toledo** (1 p.m.) and **Xavier** (7:30 p.m.) and on Sept. 17 against **Texas A&M** (7:30 p.m.). The U-M also has a match this month against **Iowa** (Sept. 30, 7 p.m.). *1 & 7:30 p.m., Cliff Keen Varsity Arena, S. State at Hoover. $5 (youths age 17 & under, $3). 764–0247.*

10th Annual "Run-a-Thon": Lawton Elementary School PTO. Noncompetitive run/walk around the school grounds. This year's event will count minutes instead of laps, with a goal to collectively run/walk for 10,800 minutes. Proceeds benefit the John Crosby Memorial Fund, which supports the U-M Mott Children's Hospital. BBQ and drinks available. *5–8 p.m., Lawton, 2250 S. Seventh. Donation or pledges (pledge forms available in Lawton office). 994–1946.*

★Amalia Pica: UMMA. This award-winning London-based Argentinean artist is joined by UMMA curator Jacob Proctor for a discussion of the current exhibit of her sculpture, photography, film, and installation. Her work explores how personal and collective histories are perceived, transmitted, and represented in different historical contexts. Reception follows. *5 p.m., UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 763–UMMA.*

★Oktoberfest Block Party: Arbor Brewing Company. *Sept. 16 & 17.* Under 3 big street tents, an old-fashioned Oktoberfest with Arbor Brewing's own beers, along with bratwurst and other food, wine, and soft drinks. Entertainment includes traditional German dance music by **Spass.** Also, polka contests, and German drinking sing-alongs. *5 p.m.–11 p.m., Washington between S. Ashley & S. Fourth Ave. (Access to the Fourth & Washington parking structure available off Main.) Free admission. 213–1393.*

Corn Maze: Talladay Farms. *Every Fri.–Sun., Sept. 16–Oct. 30.* Possibly Washtenaw County's most baffling corn maze, this vegetable labyrinth features over 10 miles of paths that form 2 intricate designs precision-cut with Farm Works software and a GPS unit. This year's "American Pride" theme features mazes shaped like a map of America and an eagle. Take a flashlight if coming after dark. Adjacent to Wasem's Orchards. *6–10 p.m. (Fri.), 1–10 p.m. (Sat.), & 1–6 p.m. (Sun.), 6270 Judd Rd. (left off McCrone/Stoney Creek east off the US-23 Willis Rd. exit). $6 per maze ($10 for both). talladayfarms.com 645–1791.*

"An Evening at the Farmer's Market": Ozone House 3rd Annual Fund-Raiser Dinner. A festive open-air 4-course dinner that features food cooked by local chefs. Also, live music TBA and a silent auction. Wine and beer. *6 p.m., Farmers' Market. Tickets $100 in advance only at ozonehouse.org, by emailing hthomas@ozonehouse.org, and by phone. 662–2265, ext. 25.*

Team USA: USA Hockey National Team Development Program. *Sept. 16 & 30.* This Ann Arbor–based program for the best 16- and 17-year-old American ice hockey players starts its 2010–2011 schedule against North American Hockey League teams. *Sept. 16:* **Team USA Under-18 vs. Youngstown Phantoms.** *Sept. 30:* **Team USA Under-17 vs. Youngstown Phantoms.** *7 p.m., Ann Arbor Ice Cube, 2121 Oak Valley Dr. at Scio Church Rd. $4 (seniors, students, & kids, $6; youth hockey players with jerseys, $1; kids under 5 & AAPS employees, free). 327–9251.*

Tiesto: EMU Convocation Center. Renowned Dutch electronic musician and DJ who specializes in various mutations of trance and house dance music. *7 p.m., EMU Convocation Center, 799 N. Hewitt (north off Washtenaw), Ypsilanti. Tickets $37 & $52 in advance at the EMU Convocation Center and at tiesto.com, and at the door. 487–2282.*

"Othello": Blackbird Theatre Shakespeare West. See 9 Friday. 7 p.m.

★"What I Did This Summer": Ann Arbor Train & Trolley Watchers. Club members show and discuss slides and video of their summer adventures. Nonmembers welcome. *7:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church social hall, 306 N. Division ("just up the hill from the Amtrak station"). Free. 996–8345, 971–8329.*

★Ann Arbor Kirtan. All invited to join a group performance of this traditional devotional call-and-response music based on Hindu Vaishnava texts and the writings of poet-saints. Accompanied by live music based on rhythmic Indian ragas on bass guitar, tabla, and drums. *7:30–9:30 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill St. Free, but donations accepted. 761–7435.*

★"Made in America": U-M School of Music. U-M percussion professor **Joseph Gramley** performs works by American composers, including Horne, Lang, and Harbison. Also, the world premiere of a work by Kuster. *8 p.m., U-M Music School McIntosh Theatre, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway). Free. 764–0594.*

Jeremy Horn: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Contemporary Christian pop-rock singer-songwriter from Memphis, a fixture on Michigan's Smile FM radio network with hits like the recent "I Will See Angels 'Round Your Throne." *8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. $15 (kids age 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 662–4536, 665–8558.*

"Teal by Twilight": Kerrytown Concert House. Benefit concert with vocalist **Mark Randisi,** a Detroit jazz crooner who performs Sinatra tunes, singing with a timbre and phrasing remarkably similar to that of Sinatra himself. With local jazz vocalist Marlena Studer and accompaniment by bassist Paul Keller, pianist Cliff Monear, and drummer Sean Dobbins. All proceeds go to the Michigan Ovarian Cancer Alliance. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave., $20 (students, $10). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"Avenue Q": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 15 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Light in the Piazza": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 8 Thursday. 8 p.m.

The Second City: The Ark. *Sept. 16 & 17.* One of the longest-running comedy improv groups in the country, Chicago's popular Second City troupe lampoons contemporary political, cultural, and social events in an evening of short sketches. The sketches are developed and refined nightly in improv sessions held after the regular show, when the actors take suggestions from the audience. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $25 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office, Herb David Guitar Studio, and all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

The Sklar Brothers: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Sept. 16 & 17.* Fast-paced tag-team stand-up comedy by twin brothers Randy and Jason Sklar, U-M grads now based in L.A. who are best known as the stars of ESPN's *Cheap Seats.* Their material ranges from topical humor to parodies of commercials and other contemporary cultural phenomena. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 & 10:30 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). $15 reserved seating in advance, $17 general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

International Folk Dancing: Ann Arbor Folkdancers. *Sept. 16 & 24.* Open Balkan, Scandinavian, and Middle Eastern folk dancing to recorded music. Preceded at 8 p.m. by lessons. *9–11 p.m., the barn at Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver. $5 (students, $3) donation. 995–0011.*

School Daze Dance Party: Parents Without Partners. All singles invited for an evening of dancing and socializing. Recorded 70s to contemporary dance music played by a DJ. Cash bar. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., Grotto Club, 2070 W. Stadium. $8 (PWP members, $6). 578–3664.*

17 SATURDAY

Ann Arbor Antiques Market. *Sept. 17 & 18.* Large show and sale of antiques in various styles from Americana to Art Deco. No reproductions are allowed, experts check every booth, and the items' authenticity is guaranteed. Deliveries available. Concessions. No pets. *8 a.m.–4 p.m. (Sat.) & 10 a.m.–4 p.m. (Sun.), Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd., Saline. $6 (children age 12 & under accompanied by an adult, free). (937) 875–0808 (before the show), 429–3145 (day of show).*

★Sculpture Park Clean-Up: People's Food Co-op. All invited to help spruce up the flower beds in the sculpture plaza in front of the co-op. Also, a chance to harvest some herbs to take home. *9 a.m.–1 p.m., 216 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 994–4589.*

Patsy Thompson: Greater Ann Arbor Quilt Guild. Talk by this award-winning quilter known for her instructional DVDs on free motion machine quilting. Also, a trunk show. Preceded at 9 a.m. by a business meeting and followed at 11 a.m. by a member show & tell. *9:45 a.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. $10 (members, free). (248) 349–7322.*

Craft Show: Old Friends. Show and sale of works by several Michigan artists, nature art, baskets, pottery, jewelry, folk art, herbal soaps, chocolate and other goodies, and more. *10 a.m.–4 p.m., 11131 Scio Church Rd. (2 miles west of Parker), Chelsea. Free admission. 475–4651.*

"A2 Architectural Tour." *Sept. 17 & 18.* Michigan architectural history enthusiast Jacob Jabkiewicz leads an informative 75-minute walking tour highlighted by Burton Memorial Tower, U-M Hatcher Graduate Library, and the Michigan and State theaters. *10 a.m. (Sat.) and 1 & 3 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.), meet at the corner of E. Liberty and Maynard. $10 (kids age 5 & under, free). (517) 392–5113.*

★**"Vedanta: Path to Freedom": Sun Moon Yoga.** Talk and guided meditation led by **Swami Tyagananda,** head of the Ramakrishna Society (Boston). *10 a.m.–2 p.m. Sun Moon Yoga, 404 W. Huron. Free, but donations accepted. 223–5615.*

"Nature Tales": Leslie Science and Nature Center. Stories about trees and a hike through Black Pond Woods for kids ages 1–5 (accompanied by a caregiver). *10–11 a.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. $2 per person. 997–1533.*

Country Fair: Wiard's Orchards. *Every Sat. & Sun., Sept. 17–Oct. 30.* A carnival atmosphere with a variety of family-oriented fall activities on this 6th-generation, 155-year-old family farm. Hay rides, the Hippity Hop Holler, a petting farm, a Noah's Ark inflatable, a corn maze, a giant slide, a bungee run, and more. Pony rides, face painting, and other activities available for an extra charge. *11 a.m.–6 p.m., Wiard's Orchards, 5565 Merritt Rd. (east of Carpenter), Ypsilanti. $12.50 admission (babies under age 2, free; group rates available). 390–9211.*

★**Storytime: Nicola's Books.** An experienced storyteller spins yarns for kids age 7 & under. *11 a.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**"Storytime at the Museum": UMMA.** U-M student docents read stories related to the art on display. For kids ages 4–7 accompanied by a parent. *11 a.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 763–UMMA.*

U-M Football vs. EMU. *Noon, Michigan Stadium. $70. 764–0247.*

★**"Shabbat Potluck Lunch in the Arb": Temple Beth Emeth TNT (Twenties and Thirties).** All singles and couples in their 20s and 30s invited for a picnic in the Arb's main valley. Bring a dairy dish to share. *12:30 p.m., U-M Nichols Arboretum, meet in the Arboretum parking lot at the Nichols Dr. entrance. Free. 665–4744.*

★**17th Annual OutFest: Jim Toy Community Center.** This celebration of National Coming Out Day features outdoor dancing to live music and other activities. Bands TBA. Refreshments available. *Afternoon time TBA, WRAP, Braun Ct. Free admission. 663–0036.*

★**"Locker Makeover": Ann Arbor District Library.** Kids in grades 6–12 make cool stuff to organize and fix up their lockers. *2–3:30 p.m., Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Thunderous Praise": Wings of Bethel.** Performances by liturgical dance teams from several central and southeast Michigan churches. Refreshments. *3 p.m., Bethel AME Church, 900 John A. Woods Dr. Free; donations accepted. 663–3800.*

★**Oktoberfest Block Party: Arbor Brewing Company.** See 9 Friday. 5 p.m.–midnight.

★**"Racism, the Bible, and the American Dream": Barnes & Noble.** Detroit writer **Elreta Dodds,** the author of *What the Bible Really Says about Slavery* and *Is God a Chauvinist? The Bible and Women,* reads from and discusses her award-winning new book. Q&A. Signing. *6 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

"Bonfire on the River": Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation. All invited to paddle around Gallup Pond in the moonlight, with a blazing fire floating in the middle of the pond, to observe birds and other animals as they prepare for their nocturnal lives. *7–10 p.m., Gallup Park canoe livery, 3000 Fuller Rd. (west side of Huron Pkwy.). $18 (includes canoe or kayak rental). 794–6240.*

"Covers": Vault of Midnight. Art benefit show with local artists who display personal interpretations of their favorite book covers and read and comment on the books' personal significance. Followed at 10 p.m. by cocktails and music by a DJ. Proceeds benefit the local youth writing center 826michigan. *7 p.m., Vault of Midnight, 219 S. Main. $3–7 suggested donation. 327–8301.*

"Othello": Blackbird Theatre Shakespeare West. See 9 Friday. 7 p.m.

31st Annual Country Music Spectacular: Washtenaw County Sheriff's Department. This fundraiser offers an old-timey, laid-back concert with the feel of a country fair. Headliner is **Mark Wills,** a multi-platinum-selling country star whose smooth baritone earned him "Top New Male Vocalist" from the Academy of Country Music in 1998. His latest album, *Looking for America,* is a collection of amped-up patriotic ballads telling stories about common Americans. Opening act TBA. *7 p.m., Dexter High School, 2200 N. Parker (south off Shield from Baker Rd.), Dexter. Tickets $19. 668–4771.*

"Milonga Picante": U-M Michigan Argentine Tango Club. See 3 Saturday. 8 p.m.

"An Evening with Ahmad Jamal": University Musical Society. A renowned jazz pianist whom Miles Davis called a main influence, Jamal is known for his spare, light style that blends consistent elegance with an originality that subtly subverts jazz conventions. NPR jazz reviewer Loren Schoenberg called him a "master musical architect" and "one of our great jazz poet laureates." The 80-year-old Jamal returns to Ann Arbor with the ensemble from *A Quiet Time,* his 2010 release featuring 9 new Jamal originals and versions of fellow piano legend Randy Weston's classic "Hi-Fly" and the standard "I Hear a Rhapsody." With bassist James Cammack, drummer Herlin Riley, and percussionist Manolo Badrena. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. $10–$46 at the Michigan League and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

Opening Night: Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra. AASO music director Arie Lipsky opens the 2011–2012 season with *Ragomania: A Classic Festival Overture,* a light-spirited work by Pulitzer Prize–winning local composer **William Bolcom.** Inspired by early jazz and ragtime, it was composed for the Boston Pops in 1982. Also, Shostakovich's Symphony No. 5 in D minor, and Schumann's Cello Concerto in A minor, featuring award-winning New York City cellist **Julie Albers,** who performs on an 1872 instrument. *8 p.m. Michigan Theater $10–$55 (discounts for students & seniors) in advance at the AASO office (220 E. Huron, Suite 470), at a2so.com, by phone, and at the door. 994–4801.*

"The Light in the Piazza": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 8 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Avenue Q": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 15 Thursday. 8 p.m.

The Second City: The Ark. See 16 Friday. 8 p.m.

The Sklar Brothers: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 16 Friday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

18 SUNDAY

"5K Run and Walk": Vision Builders. 5-km run and walk (including a separate walk for walkers with dogs), along with a 100-m dash (10:35 a.m.) for kids age 6 & under and a 1-mile run (10:40 a.m.) for kids age 12 & under. Also, a pancake breakfast and kids festival featuring games, a moonwalk, crafts, and more. Awards for top male and female finishers in various age categories. Proceeds go to Vision Builders, a local nonprofit that provides schools, medical care, clean water, and other basic services to children in the Himalayan region. *9:30 a.m., Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. $30 (kids under 12, $20; family, $50). $5 discount if you preregister at visionbuilders5k.org. $5 vehicle entry fee. 660–9075.*

28th Annual Fall Fleece Fair: Spinners Flock. A huge array of hand-spun yarns and fibers for spinning and felting, including Michigan-grown fibers. Also, supplies for spinning, weaving, felting, crocheting, and knitting. Members offer demos throughout the day. *10 a.m.–4 p.m., Beach Middle School, 445 Mayer, Chelsea. Free admission. 769–1657.*

Country Fair: Wiard's Orchards. See 17 Saturday. 11 a.m.

Golden Limo Wine Tour: Carson's American Bistro. A guided wine tour, in a limo, with stops at 3 Jackson County wineries, including Chateau Aeronautique, Lone Oak Vineyard, and Sandhill Crane Vineyards. *12:30–5 p.m., meet at Carson's American Bistro, 2000 Commonwealth (off Plymouth). $50 (includes appetizers and a $10 Mainstreet Ventures giftcard). Reservations required by emailing reservations@goldenlimo.com or by phone. (800) 300–5151.*

★**"Chesstastic!": Ann Arbor District Library.** All kids and adults invited to play chess. Sets provided. *1–4 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–4200.*

"Bug Fest!": Leslie Science & Nature Center. A variety of family-oriented activities and exhibits exploring the world of insects. Kids must be accompanied by an adult. *1–3 p.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. $6 (families, $21) in advance, $8 (families, $30) at the door. 997–1553.*

★**"Dancing Babies": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local composer-percussionist and teacher Aron Kaufman presents a program of music and movement for babies through 5-year-olds. *1–1:40 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. be-*

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Jimmy Howard
Detroit Red Wings

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★"Asters & Goldenrods of the Prairie": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. A WCPARC naturalist shows how to identify these late summer wildflowers. *2–4 p.m., Independence Lake County Park Beach Center, 3200 Jennings, north off North Territorial, Webster Twp. Free. $5 vehicle entry fee. 971–6337, ext. 334.*

Edward Parmentier: U-M School of Music. This U-M harpsichord professor performs on "Mother-and-Child" virginals, a two-in-one keyboard instrument consisting of virginals and ottavino. Parmentier's instrument is a copy of a Ruckers virginals, made in 1600, in the Sforza castle in Milan. The program includes music by Byrd, Bull, Frescobaldi, Gibbons, and others. *2 p.m., U-M Music School Blanche Anderson Moore Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

Ellen Rowe Trio: Kerrytown Concert House. U-M jazz piano professor Rowe leads her trio in **"All About the Trio: The Music and Style of the Ahmad Jamal Trio,"** the 1st in her new series of concert and lecture programs covering different aspects of jazz trios. With bassist Paul Keller and drummer Sean Dobbins. Also, the **U-M Honors Jazz Trio** performs and discusses a Jamal piece it prepared for an educational session with the renowned jazz pianist when he was in town for a UMS concert (see 17 Saturday listing). *2 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $10–$25 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"Avenue Q": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 15 Thursday. 2 p.m.

Kaffeeklatsch: Kempf House Museum. All invited for coffee, tea, traditional German coffee cakes, and conversation. *3–4:30 p.m., Kempf House garden, 312 S. Division. $10 by reservation at kempfhousemuseum@gmail.org, $12 at the door. 994–4898.*

★Ann Arbor Classics Book Group: Barnes & Noble. All invited to join a discussion of J.R.R. Tolkein's classic fantasy novel ***The Lord of the Rings.*** Refreshments. *3 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

"The Light in the Piazza": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 8 Thursday. 3 p.m.

Sunday Matinee Puppet Show: Dreamland Theater. See 4 Sunday. 3:30 p.m.

★"Beating the Nazis with Truffles and Tripe: The Early Years of *Gourmet: The Magazine of Good Living*": Culinary Historians of Ann Arbor. Talk by Kalamazoo College history professor emeritus David Strauss. *4–6 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 794–6250.*

Emerson String Quartet: University Musical Society. Named after the poet-essayist Ralph Waldo Emerson, this multi-Grammy-winning quartet, founded in 1976, has gained worldwide acclaim for its mastery of 20th-century classical music and for a distinctively muscular sound that's both gritty and lyrical. This all-Mozart program features his *Prussian Quartets,* a beloved, regularly performed set of 3 quartets noted for the prominence of the cello, the instrument played by Friedrich Wilhelm II of Prussia, who commissioned them. *4 p.m., Rackham Auditorium, 915 East Washington. $24–$52 at the Michigan League Ticket Office, ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

19 MONDAY

"Home Improvement": Big George's Home Appliance Mart. Panel discussion with Huron Valley Financial loan officer Amaechi Udoji, Architectural Resource master designer Michael Klement, Fireside Home Construction founder Bob Burnside, and Miele, Inc. (Germany) appliance manufacturer territory manager Scott Reisner. *6:30–7:30 p.m., Big George's, 2023 W. Stadium. Free. Space limited; reservations required. 663–9509.*

★Embroiderers Guild of America. Stitchers of all abilities invited to work on their projects together and learn about guild activities. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by socializing. *7–9 p.m., Rudolf Steiner School, 2230 Pontiac Tr. Free to visitors ($30 annual dues for those who join). 994–4385.*

★New Members Night: Out Loud Chorus. *Sept. 19 & 26.* Beginning to advanced singers invited to join the weekly rehearsal of this chorus of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people and their friends. *7–9:30 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 1400 W. Stadium. Free. 973–6084.*

★"Crossing Cultural Borders: Universals in Art and Their Biological Roots": Ann Arbor District Library. U-M psychology and neuroscience professor emeritus Charles Butter discusses his new book. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★Nonfiction Book Club: Barnes & Noble. All invited to join a discussion of Gretchen Rubin's good-humored self-help memoir ***The Happiness Project: Or, Why I Spent a Year Trying to Sing in the Morning, Clean My Closets, Fight Right, Read Aristotle, and Generally Have More Fun.*** *7 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★PEN Trio: U-M School of Music. This trio of Bethune-Cookman University (Daytona Beach) clarinet professor **Phillip Paglialonga,** Kansas State University music professor and oboist **Nora Lewis,** and Windsor Symphony Orchestra bassoonist **Eric Van der Veer Varner** performs a wide range of classical works TBA. *7 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

★"The Ironing Board Project": Ann Arbor Women Artists. Mixed-media artist **Susan Mulder** discusses her project for which she solicited letters from women about their experience, which she transferred onto vintage linen. In March 2009, she incorporated the linens in a performance art piece. *7:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 996–2551.*

★"Friendly and Deadly Branches on the Fungal Tree of Life": Michigan Botanical Club. U-M ecology and evolutionary biology professor Timothy James discusses newly discovered fungal types and the ways fungi both help and hurt plants. *7:45 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free. (810) 923–5860.*

20 TUESDAY

★"God of This City": Aglow International. The club's leadership team discusses Ann Arbor's spiritual heritage. Light refreshments. Aglow is an organization devoted to meeting women's spiritual needs. *9:30 a.m.–noon, 340 WCC Liberal Arts Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 971–4545.*

★Noon Lecture Series: U-M Center for Chinese Studies. *Every Tues. beginning Sept. 20.* Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Free sandwiches, cookies, & coffee served. *Sept. 20:* Stanford University political science professor Jean Oi discusses **"Why Redistrict in a One-Party State? Administrative Reorganization and Boundary Changes in Rural China."** *Sept. 27:* U-M political science professor Yuen Yuen Ang on **"Dual Fiscal Incentives: Informal Public Compensation, Time Horizon, and Bureaucratic Behavior in Local China."** *Noon–1 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–6308.*

★"Secret Historian: Reclaiming an Invisible Gay Life in Mid-20th Century America": U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender. New York–based writer **Justin Spring** discusses his biography of Samuel Steward, aka Phil Andros, a scholar, tattoo artist, and erotica writer who documented his secret homosexual identity in diaries made public after his death in 1993. *4–6 p.m., 2239 Lane Hall, 204 S. State. Free. 764–9537.*

★"Making Raw Foods a Practical Part of Your Life": Relaxation & Ultimate Bodywork. *Sept. 20 & 27.* Talk by local raw foods advocate Ellen Livingston, with raw food and beverage samples. *6:30–8 p.m., RUB, 214 S. Main, suite 201 (above Espresso Royale). $30. Reservations recommended. 213–7600.*

★"Easy Snacks and Alternative Ingredients": Cranbrook Whole Foods Market. A Food First by Jennifer representative discusses spices, alternative sweeteners, essential oils, and more and gives weight loss tips. *7 p.m., Whole Foods Market, 990 W. Eisenhower Pkwy.m Cranbrook Village shopping center. Free. Preregistration required. 997–7500.*

★"Climbing Everest with Pem Dorjee Sherpa": The Himalayan Bazaar. Himalayan Bazaar coowner Sherpa discusses growing up in Nepal, his work as a porter, and his 2 climbs to the summit of Mt. Everest. *7 p.m., Himalayan Bazaar, 218 S. Main. Free. 997–7229.*

"Eagle Experience": Leslie Science & Nature Center. All invited to watch the LSNC resident bald eagle fly free in the field and return for a bit of venison. Bring your camera. *7–8 p.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. $25. Preregistration required. 997–1553.*

★"Sleep and Depression": Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by U-M Sleep and Chronophysiology Lab behavioral sleep medicine program director Todd Arnedt, followed by a panel discussion and Q&A with U-M Depression Center experts. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★"The Slayer Chronicles: First Kill": Nicola's Books. Missouri writer **Heather Brewer** reads from and discusses her new young adult novel about a teen who searches for the vampire who murdered her younger sister. Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's Books, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★"Let's Take the Family to ... the Galapagos Islands!": Huron Valley Sierra Club. Dexter residents Doug and Julia Jackson talk about a budget-

wise approach to family travel and their recent adventures with their 2 daughters on a yearlong trip around the world on $100 a day. *7:30–9 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 665–0248.*

21 WEDNESDAY

"Long-Term Changes in Great Lakes Ecosystems: A Prognosis": Ann Arbor City Club Lunch & Learn. Lecture by U-M natural resources professor and Michigan Sea Grant director James Diana. Also, lunch. *11:30 a.m., City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. $18. Reservations required by Sept. 16 by email or phone. info@annarborcityclub.org, 662–3279.*

Noon Lecture Series: Kempf House Center for Local History. *Every Wed., Sept. 21–Nov. 9. Sept. 21:* Meadowlark Builders CEO Douglas Selby discusses **"A Green Home Remodeled and Retrofit."** *Sept. 28:* Quinn Evans Architects architect and EMU preservation professor Norm Tyler discusses **"The Genealogy of the Greek Revival Style of Architecture."** *Noon–1 p.m., Kempf House, 312 S. Division. Admission $2 (Kempf House members, $1). 994–4898.*

★**Book Club: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** All seniors age 55 & over invited to join Liz Gleich to discuss a book TBA at a2gov.org/senior. *12:15–1:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769–5911.*

Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra: Jewish Community Center Afternoon Delights. Performance by an AASO chamber ensemble led by clarinetist **Brian Bowman.** Program TBA. Preceded at 1 p.m. by dessert and socializing. *1:30 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $8. 971–0990.*

"Kid's Club: Make Your Own Pizza": Cranbrook Whole Foods Market. All kids age 3–12, accompanied by a parent, invited to make nutritious pizza. *4 p.m., Whole Foods Market, 990 W. Eisenhower Pkwy., Cranbrook Village shopping center. $5. Preregistration required. 997–7500.*

★**"Montevideo Takes Manhattan: The Latin American Provenance of the Global Children's Health/Children's Rights Movement": U-M Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies.** University of Toronto international health professor Anne-Emanuelle Birn discusses Uruguay's commitment to children's rights since it established the first Ministry of Child Protection in 1933. *4 p.m., 2609 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 763–0553.*

★**Grand Opening of the Neutral Zone Art Room: The Neutral Zone.** All invited to the newly renovated art studio for an open house featuring an art exhibit, interactive art activities, music, poetry, and more. *5–7 p.m., Neutral Zone, 310 E. Washington. Free. 214–9995.*

★**"Drummunity!"** Lori Fithian, a local drummer and drum teacher, leads a drum circle. Instruments provided, or bring your own. Kids welcome. Preceded at 6:45 p.m. by a brief drum lesson. *7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore, 114 S. Main. Free. 426–7818.*

★**Jennifer Burd: Nicola's Books.** This Ypsilanti poet reads from her new collection, *Body and Echo,* with musical accompaniment by Laz Slomovits of the local acoustic duo Gemini. "The genius of Jennifer Burd's poetry lies not only in the ways her language inhabits each and every one of her internal and external landscapes, but also in the profound yet playful delight of her responses to, and conversations with, even the smallest details so at home in the universe she inhabits," says Siena Heights University English professor Simone Yehuda. Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's Books, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**Culinary History Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** All invited to join a discussion of ***A Revolution in Eating: How the Quest for Food Shaped America,*** James McWilliams' book about the creation of American cuisine. *7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669–0451.*

★**"Chile: Birding at the End of the World": Washtenaw Audubon Society.** Slide-illustrated talk by club member Rodolfo Palma. *7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 677–3275.*

★**"The Oil Kings: How the U.S., Iran, and Saudi Arabia Changed the Balance of Power in the Middle East": U-M Ford Presidential Library.** New Zealand–based writer **Andrew Scott Cooper** discusses his new book that uses previously classified documents to expose the role of oil in American foreign policy. The book has been praised particularly for shedding light on the surprising U.S.-Iran relationship during the Nixon and Ford administrations. Signing and reception follows. *7:30 p.m., Ford Library, 1000 Beal, North Campus. Free. 205–0555.*

★**Detroit Tenors: UMMA Jazz Series.** This Detroit jazz quintet, led by veteran jazz saxophonists **Carl Cafagna** and **Steve Wood,** pays tribute to the great

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jazz

Mikrokolektyw

Polish improvisers

Over the last half-century, jazz has flourished in Central Europe, especially in Poland. Banned by the Stalinist postwar government, it emerged from the underground in the late Fifties to become an important component of intellectual culture, with a strong oppositional element. When I was a teenager in Poland in the Sixties, my friends and I traded cherished records, listened to the Voice of America Jazz Hour, and supported local musicians. Forty-three years later, living in the land that gave jazz to the world, I still try to follow developments in my native country.

Last month I was told that Mikrokolektyw, a duo of young Polish musicians, was to play in Ann Arbor, and I was asked to collaborate with them on a few tunes. I was extremely pleased, but also somewhat concerned: I knew nothing about them. I obtained their new recording on the Delmark label, *Revisit,* and instantly was drawn into their music. I also discovered that they have a great following in Europe but also play with many of the best musicians in Chicago—hence the release on the Windy City's best music label. I immediately wanted to write about them, but the upcoming collaboration seemed to create a conflict of interest. Nevertheless, the opportunity to play with, as well as to write about, two wonderful jazz players from my native land (both of them born since I left) was just too strong a temptation.

Mikrokolektyw consists of trumpeter Artur Majewski and percussionist Kuba Suchar; they also use samplers and electronics such as the analog synthesizer Minimoog. Well schooled in the jazz tradition, they have an eclectic postmodern approach that uses elements of popular and contemporary classical forms and combines acoustic and electronic sounds in a unique manner.

Majewski likes to use the Harmon mute, which sometimes recalls the more melancholy phases of Miles Davis's work, but he also invokes the more adventurous sounds of Bill Dixon or Don Cherry (who was the subject of his master's thesis). Every now and then his playing is doubled or processed by electronic means.

Suchar has a parsimonious approach to the drum set, choosing his sounds and rhythms sparingly. But because he calls on a broad range of musical devices at just the right time, he manages to draw listeners into trance-like states only to surprise them at just the right moment. The two work so closely together that sometimes it is impossible to tell who is doing what, and the sheer variety of their music, as well as their judicious use of electronics, makes them sound like a much bigger unit. At first glance, they could be compared to the Chicago Underground Duo, which uses the same instrumentation. But Mikrokolektyw has a very different aesthetic, and their approach to rhythm as well as their use of electronics distinguishes them from their Chicago friends.

On September 22 Mikrokolektyw will play at Kerrytown Concert House, joined, toward the end, by this writer on saxophones and clarinet.

—Piotr Michalowski

tenor sax pairings of the 40s and 50s. They play contemporary works by composers such as George Coleman and George Garzone as well as arrangements by the tenor-centric bands of Elvin Jones. *8 p.m., UMMA Forum, 525 S. State. Free. 763–UMMA.*

Gordon Lightfoot: Michigan Theater. This acclaimed Canadian performer is one of the most durably appealing singer-songwriters to emerge from the 60s folk revival. Singing in a smoky, wind-swept baritone, Lightfoot is best known for his plangent, often obliquely evocative folk-style songs and ballads, including "Early Morning Rain," "Sundown," "Rainy Day People," and "The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald." *8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $25–$67.50 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (800) 745–3000.*

22 THURSDAY

★**"Preparing for and Playing the Music of Chopin: Melodies, Accompaniments, Fiorituras, and More!": Ann Arbor Piano Teachers Guild.** Lecture-demo by noted Bloomfield Hills composer and piano teacher **Catherine Rollin,** best known for her many pedagogical compositions. *10 a.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 665–5346.*

★**"Veto Players: Preferences, Institutions, and Policies": U-M College of Literature, Science, & the Arts.** Lecture by U-M political science professor George Tsebelis. Reception follows. *4:10 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater. Free. 998–6251.*

★**"Miłosz Remembered": U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series.** Screening of ***The Magic Mountain: An American Portrait of Czesław Miłosz,*** a film about the legacy of this Nobel Prize–winning Polish poet who had close ties to U-M. Followed by a public reception (6 p.m.) and a panel discussion (7 p.m.) with award-winning poets **Robert Hass** and **Robert Pinsky** and Miłosz translator **Lillian Vallée.** *5:10 p.m. Rackham Auditorium, 915 E. Washington. Free. 764–6330.*

★**"The Man Who Never Died: The Life, Times, and Legacy of Joe Hill, American Labor Icon": U-M Hatcher Graduate Library.** Freelance writer **William Adler** discusses his biography of the labor activist who was convicted of murder in Utah in 1914 and sentenced to death. Adler's book argues convincingly that Hill was innocent of the murder charges but convicted because he was a union member. Signing. *5:30–7 p.m., 100 Hatcher Library, enter from the Diag. Free. 615–5783.*

★**"American Veda: From Emerson and the Beatles to Yoga and Meditation: How Indian Spirituality Changed the West": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** SpiritualCitizens.net outreach director and Huffington Post religion blogger Philip Goldberg discusses his book. Signing. *7 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★**"Coutouriere": Ann Arbor District Library.** Nationally recognized local dressmaker and fashion designer **Rebecca Lambers** discusses the world of high fashion, illustrating her talk with examples of her creations, slides of her work, and some live modeling. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"The Angel of Blythe Hall": Nicola's Books.** Local novelist **Darci Hannah** reads from and discusses her suspenseful new historical novel about a Scottish noblewoman's struggle to reclaim her family's ancestral fortress. Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's Books, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

"The Light in the Piazza": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 8 Thursday. 3 & 7:30 p.m.

10th Anniversary Festival: Michigan Argentine Tango Club. *Sept. 22–26 (different locations).* Five nights of milongas (tango ballroom parties) and dinner socials. The dances are preceded earlier in the day by beginner to advanced-level workshops (5–8 p.m. Mon. & Fri., 11 a.m.–6 p.m. Sat. & Sun) led by professional tango instructors from Buenos Aires and across the U.S. *8 p.m.–midnight, Michigan Union and other locations TBA. $15 (students, $10) per dance. Festival pass (includes all workshops), $120 (students, $70). umich.edu/~umtango.*

"Diamonds and Pearls": Performance Network. Music and theater performances to benefit this local theater. Performers include the nationally renowned husband-and-wife cabaret duo **Bolcom & Morris,** the Detroit-based **Mosaic Youth Theatre,** U-M voice professor **George Shirley,** and actresses **Jennifer Joy** and **Naz Edwards,** along with some surprise guests. *8 p.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. $100 ($150 VIP tickets includes admission to a 6:30 p.m. reception). Reservations suggested. For reservations, call 663–0681; to charge by phone, call 663–0696.*

Mikrokolektyw: Kerrytown Concert House Jazz at the Edge Series. *See review, p. 74.* This Polish avant-jazz duo of trumpeter Artur Majewski and drummer Kuba Suchar sports a stripped-down, impressionist sound built on acoustic improvisations layered over electronic rhythms looped from a minimoog and sampler. Its music has evoked comparisons to Don Cherry's experimental 1970s recordings. Mikrokolektyw (pronounced "micro-collective") is joined by local reedman Piotr Michalowski on several songs. *8 p.m. KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $10–$25 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"Escanaba in da Moonlight": Purple Rose Theatre Company. *Every Wed.–Sun., Sept. 22–Dec. 17.* Guy Sanville directs this revival of actor-playwright Jeff Daniels's hit 1995 comedy, a tall tale set in the Upper Peninsula during deer season. As the Soady family prepares for their annual hunting trip, the oldest boy (now facing middle age) has never yet bagged a buck and fears he will be the disgrace of the family. His Native American wife gives him a magic potion to overcome his bad luck, and mysterious forces start to take over the Soadys' annual expedition. Cast: Matthew David, Nate Mitchell, Michael Brian Ogden, Wayne David Parker, Jim Porterfield, and Rhiannon Ragland. *8 p.m., Purple Rose Theatre, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Tickets $25 (Wed. & Thurs.), $35 (Fri. eves. & weekend matinees), & $40 (Sat. eves.) in advance at purplerosetheatre.org, and by phone. 433–7673.*

"Long Day's Journey Into Night": PTD Productions. *Sept. 22–25, 29–30, & Oct. 1.* Tod Barker directs local actors in Eugene O'Neill's Pulitzer Prize–winning semi-autobiographical drama, considered his finest for its simple, direct style and poignant, tempered portrayal of a dysfunctional family. The play depicts a day in the life of a family whose individual struggles with addiction, illness, and an inability to let past wounds and failures go catches all of them up in an escalating cycle of blame, resentment, denial, and conflict. Cast: Mark Bernstein, Janet Rich, Adam Weakley, Nathan Evans, and Mary Kowalski. *8 p.m., Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Tickets $18 (students & seniors, $12; Thurs., pay what you can) in advance at showtix4u.com and by phone, and at the door. 483–7345.*

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

23 FRIDAY

2nd Annual Tuition Assistance Golf Outing: St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School Benefit. Four-person Florida scramble tournament with a shotgun start. (In a Florida scramble format, each player hits every shot from the spot of the best ball of their foursome, with the player whose shot is the best sitting

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"Drop-in and Draw: Fridays in the Gallery": UMMA/Ann Arbor Art Center. *Sept. 23 & 30.* All invited to make drawings inspired by works in the museum. Art Center instructor Heather Accurso is on hand to offer guidance. *11:10 a.m.–1 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. $10 (includes materials). 763–UMMA.*

"Investigate Insects": Leslie Science & Nature Center. LSNC staff introduce kids ages 5–12 to insects' life cycles, adaptations, and habitats. Participants also use nets to sweep for insects and then graph their findings. Kids must be accompanied by an adult. *1–3 p.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. $6 per child. Preregistration required. 997–1553.*

★U-M Center for South Asian Studies. *Sept. 23 & 30.* Talks by visiting scholars. *Sept. 23:* Emory University history professor Gyanendra Pandey on **"Dalit Memoirs: Re-scripting the Subaltern Body."** *Sept. 30:* New School (NYC) anthropology professor Sharika Thiranagama discusses her book, ***In My Mother's House: The Intimacy of War in Sri Lanka.*** *4 p.m., 1636 SSWB 1080 South University. Free. 764–0448.*

★"Harvest of the Arts Oktoberfest": Saline Downtown Merchants Association. *Sept. 23 & 24.* Two-day community festival. *Sept. 23:* An old-fashioned **Oktoberfest,** with a beer garden with German brews and traditional German food. Music by the Frankenmuth-based band **Polka Riot,** joined by the **Frankenmuth Schuhplattlers,** an acrobatic, thigh-slapping German folk dance troupe. *Sept. 24:* A **juried art fair,** chili cook-off, kids activities, bake sale, and quilt exhibit. Also, a 5-km or 10-km walk led by the Washtenaw Wanderers. *5–11 p.m. (Sept. 23) & 10 a.m.–9 p.m. (Sept. 24), downtown Saline. Free. 368–8297.*

★Gaming Tournaments: Ann Arbor District Library. *Sept. 23–25.* Video game tournaments. *Sept. 23:* **NBA Jam, Rock Band 3,** or **Marvel vs. Capcom.** For teens in grade 6 & up. *Sept. 24:* **National Smash 3.** For teens in grade 6 & up. *Sept. 25:* **Mario Kart Tournament** (1–4 p.m.) and **Wii Sports Resort** (3–5 p.m.) For all ages. *6–8:30 p.m. (Sept.23), 1–4 p.m., (Sept. 24 & 25), & 3–5 p.m. (Sept. 25) AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★Franz Wright: Copper Colored Mountain Arts One Pause Poetry. *See review, p. 77.* Reading by this Pulitzer Prize–winning poet who crafts precise, lyrical poems about isolation, illness, spirituality, and gratitude. According to the *Boston Review,* Wright writes "from a point close enough to both salvation and ruin that we may feel like sympathetic voyeurs peering into someone's tense, confessional moments." His most recent book, *Kindertotenwald,* is a collection of prose poems that explore tales of childhood, adolescence, and adulthood. Reception follows. Signing. *7 p.m., CCMA, 7101 W. Liberty. Free. 904–6520.*

"Jack and the Beantin": Saline Area Players. *Sept. 23–25.* Local actors put on an adaptation of the children's story "Jack and the Beanstalk" in the slapstick style of British pantomime known as panto. Director and cast TBA. *7 p.m., Rentschler Farm Museum, 1265 E. Michigan Ave., Saline. Tickets $8 (students, $5). 355–8898.*

"Othello": Blackbird Theatre Shakespeare West. See 9 Friday. 7 p.m.

Freddy Cole Quartet: Kerrytown Concert House. Veteran singer-pianist Cole, a 2011 Grammy nominee who is brother of jazz and pop legend Nat "King" Cole, performs sweet, soulful ballads and blues & jazz standards with his quartet in a show Cole calls "an invitation to relaxation." Cole's suave, articulate baritone voice earned him the praise of a *New York Times* reviewer as "the most maturely expressive male jazz singer of his generation, if not the best alive." With Ann Arbor–bred guitarist Randy Napoleon, bassist Elias Bailey, and drummer Curtis Boyd. Part of the Kerrytown Club series. Cash bar. *7:30 & 9:30 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $35–$20 (students, $15). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

Ron White: Michigan Theater Foundation. Best known as a member of Jeff Foxworthy's "Blue Collar Comedy Tour," this veteran Texas stand-up comic is known for a point of view that's politically incorrect in both the red and the blue states and for a cigar-chomping, scotch-drinking, flamboyantly disreputable onstage persona that masks a razor-sharp wit and unflappably sweet temper. He has released 3 chart-topping CDs, *Drunk in Public, You Can't Fix Stupid,* and *Behavioral Problems.* He calls his current show **"Moral Compass."** Opening act TBA. *7:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $47.75 & $57.75 at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (800) 745–3000.*

"Hoe-Down": FreNZ of the Neutral Zone. A barn dance with bluegrass music by local bands TBA. With light appetizers, beer, and wine. Proceeds to benefit the Neutral Zone teen center. *8 p.m.–midnight, The Yellow Barn, 416 W. Huron. Tickets $10 (includes 2 drink tickets). 214–9995.*

"3rd Annual GFest": U-M Gmen. Performances by this all-male student a cappella ensemble and other student groups TBA. *8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Cost TBA. gmen@umich.edu.*

★"Autumn Moon over a Calm Lake: An Evening of Chinese Piano Music": EMU Music Department. Recital by EMU piano professor Joel Schoenhals. *8 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

★Adam Unsworth & Ellen Rowe: U-M School of Music. French hornist Unsworth and pianist Rowe—both U-M professors—perform classical works for horn and piano as well as jazz originals. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

★University Symphony Orchestra: U-M School of Music. 2011 American Prize in Conducting winner Kenneth Kiesler conducts this Grammy-winning music student ensemble in Brahms' *Tragic Overture,* Vaughan Williams' *Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis,* Respighi's colorful and stunning *Pines of Rome,* and Beethoven's Piano Concerto no. 3, with U-M piano professor **Louis Nagel.** Preceded at 7:15 in the lower lobby by a lecture about the program. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

★Gamelan Concert and Dance Performance: U-M Center for Southeast Asian Studies. An **Indonesian Institute of the Arts (Surakarta, Java) dance troupe** performs classical Javanese dance, including the courtly *srimpi* style and *Bambangan Cakil,* a 2-person dance that combines precise movements with intricate poses and elaborate costumes to tell the story of a battle between good and evil as represented by the warrior Arjuna and the monstrous giant Cakil. Accompanied by gamelan, an Indonesian orchestra that features gongs and metallophones. Preceded at noon by a lecture by Indonesian Institute of the Arts gamelan composer and professor Rahayu Supanggah on **"The Development of Javanese Creative Arts"** (1636 SSWB, 1080 South University). *8–9:30 p.m., 2435 North Quad, 105 S. State. Free, but tickets required. 764–0352.*

Mark Morris Dance Group: University Musical Society. *Sept. 23 & 24.* This iconoclastic dance company is led by choreographer Mark Morris. Notorious for years as the shaggy "bad boy" of modern dance, the keenly inventive Morris is arguably the country's most popular modern dance choreographer, perhaps because, as *New Yorker* critic Joan Acocella notes, he "simply tells people more about their lives than other choreographers do." This program includes a choreographed setting of Barber's *Excursions for Piano* for 6 dancers, which the *New York Times* reviewer Alastair Macaulay says "feels like an odd collage of views of 20th-century America: the free and easy, the journey down the open road, the blues, the dropout, the protest, and more." Also, a dance set to Satie's *Socrates* for tenor and piano and *Festival Dance,* a brand-new 12-dancer piece set to Hummel's *Piano Quartet in G Major* created for the company's 30th anniversary celebration. *8 p.m., Power Center, 121 Fletcher. $18–$48 at the Michigan League Ticket Office and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

"1940s Radio Hour": Shut the Front Door Theater. *Sept, 23, 24, & 30 and Oct. 1.* Phil Walker directs this new Chelsea-based semiprofessional theater company in Walton Jones's musical, a recreation of an old-time radio show whose score includes 25 40s hits, including "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy," "Blue Moon," "That Old Black Magic," and "I've Got a Gal in Kalamazoo." Cast: Mike Koeller, Jack Smith, Rob Roy, Ryan Younk, Deb Alverez, Cheryl Oberholtzer, Emma Griffith, Scott Riedel, Adele Roy, David Bloom. *8 p.m., Chelsea Depot, 125 Jackson, Chelsea. Tickets $15 in advance and at the door. 476–3774.*

"ACT: Two One-Acts": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre Studio Series. *Sept. 23, 24, 30, and Oct. 1 & 2.* Glenn Bugala directs local actors in 2 comic one-act plays that put believable characters in surreal situations. In Pulitzer Prize–winning playwright **Sam Shepard's *Action***, 4 friends surviving in a frozen world try to find something meaningful to do, from reading the planet's last book to eating its final turkey. **Christopher Durang's *The Actor's Nightmare*** is a comedy about an accountant who wanders onstage before a performance and, mistaken for an understudy, is forced to improvise his way through scenes by various playwrights from Shakespeare to Noel Coward. Cast (for both): Tom Stack, John Klopp, Emily Sparrow, Amy Bogetto, Heather Liebal, and James Lee. *8 p.m., A2CT Studio, 322 W. Ann. Tickets $12 in advance and at the door. 971–2228.*

"Time Stands Still": Performance Network Professional Season. *Every Thurs.–Sun., Sept. 23–Oct.*

poetry

Franz Wright

Have I been left here?

When I knew I would write about Franz Wright's new collection of prose poems, *Kindertotenwald,* I wrote to my German friend Thilo von Debschitz, whose English is decidedly better than my German, to ask him how he understood the title. Kinder was easy—the plural of children. But the rest of the compound was harder. Thilo wrote: "Totenwald is the Wald (forest) of the Toten (death people). And as a linguistic sequence, it really gives the impression of a nightmare because in my inner eyes I see deathly pale kids lying in the dark woods."

Thilo's impression of the title captures the feel of Wright's book. It has the sense of nightmare, is filled with the weird precision and inexplicable jumps of dreams, and is both frightening and sometimes humorous in a dark and troubling way.

Wright has been working for a long time to craft poems in which each word carries evocative weight. His words and lines often fall next to others that seem to bear no relationship to them, yet together they craft an emotional whole—sometimes even a nuanced statement about the largest issues (death, God, survival in the face of suffering). His recent books have been small masterpieces of demanding but provocative verse. One, *Walking to Martha's Vineyard,* won the Pulitzer Prize in 2004. (Wright and his father, James Wright, are the only father-son combination ever to win our biggest literary prize in the same genre.)

Wright has adapted the prose poem, a form that often works best to capture the dream life, to his particular vision. Some of his poems are genuine nightmares that call up images of family and history that preoccupy us all; some are ironic comments on literary life; and others are weird little narratives that remind us of Kafka, Beckett, or even Edgar Allan Poe.

A poem titled "The Last Person in Purgatory" begins: "It seems to be getting a little darker each day. No doubt there are now too few people on earth who believe in its existence to provide the power required to keep the place running …" And since no one any longer believes in purgatory, the speaker thinks, it must have few inhabitants; perhaps he is the only one left, wandering the netherworld forever without companionship or hope. He ends: "What else are you going to do? And wondering, not for the first time, if I have simply been forgotten. I am having great trouble with this. If I have been forgotten, if I have been left here and forgotten."

Franz Wright reads from *Kindertotenwald* at Copper Colored Mountain Arts on September 23.

—Keith Taylor

23. Suzi Regan stars in Donald Margulies' 2010 Tony-nominated drama about a photojournalist, recently returned home from Iraq after being injured by a roadside bomb, who is torn between her desire to return to the front and her reporter boyfriend's desire to settle down with her for a conventional life. *8 p.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. Preview tickets: whatever you can afford to pay (Sept. 23), $22 (Sept. 25 & 29), and $30 (Sept. 24). Sept. 30 opening night tickets: $39 & $41 includes reception. After Sept. 30: $27 & $29 (Thurs.), $32 & $34 (Fri. & Sun.), $25 & $27 (Sat. matinee), $39 & $41 (Sat. eve.). $3 discount for seniors age 60 & over. Tickets available in advance at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the door. $10 student discount in advance, half-price student tickets at the door only. For reservations, call 663–0681; to charge by phone, call 663–0696.*

"The Light in the Piazza": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 8 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Escanaba in da Moonlight": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 22 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Long Day's Journey Into Night": PTD Productions. See 22 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Kevin Zeoli: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Sept. 23 & 24.* Ann Arbor debut of this veteran Westland comic known for his down-to-earth, blue-collar observational and philosophical humor. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 & 10:30 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). $10 reserved seating in advance, $12 general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

★**"Viewing Night": U-M Detroit Observatory.** All invited to peer at the night sky through antique telescopes. The Observatory dome can be opened only during mild, dry weather, so check astro.lsa.umich.edu/outreach/detroit to see if the event has been canceled. *8:30–10:30 p.m., U-M Detroit Observatory, 1398 E. Ann at Observatory. Free. 763–3482.*

24 SATURDAY

★**"Here's to Your Health": Bethel AME Church.** Health fair with free health and nutrition information and literature, and a nutrition workshop at 9 a.m. Also, attendees can choose from 1-mile, 2-mile, or 3-mile walks planned in the neighborhoods around the church. Bottled water and refreshments. *8:30 a.m., Bethel AME Church, 900 John A. Woods Dr. (off Pontiac Trail). Free. 663–3800.*

★**Rabbit Show: Ann Arbor Rabbit Breeders.** Breeders from throughout the Midwest and Canada are expected to show some 2,000 rabbits representing at least 17 breeds in this American Rabbit Association–sanctioned event. Food concessions and sale of bunny-related merchandise. *9:30 a.m.–afternoon, Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free admission. 678–2265.*

★**30th Annual Webster Fall Festival: Webster Township Historical Society/Webster United Church of Christ.** Popular country fair with hayrides, pony rides, a children's petting zoo, children's crafts & games, exhibits of antique cars & farm equipment, a 19th-century general store, blacksmithing and wool spinning demonstrations, a horseshoe contest, a one-room schoolhouse (complete with marm and dunce cap), a bake and canned goods sale, a country craft fair, a country store, a display of antique quilts, an antiques auction, a garage sale, and the church's famous pig roast supper (5–7 p.m.). Lunch available, 11 a.m.–2 p.m., and the hot dog stand is open all day. Entertainment includes live music by the string ensembles **The Fiddler Pie** and **North Creek Fiddlers** and the veteran Ann Arbor bluegrass band **The RFD Boys.** *10 a.m.–7 p.m., Webster Community Hall, cor-*

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This seminar will be held at the Ann Arbor Kensington Court Hotel adjacent to Briarwood Mall from 6:30–7:30 p.m.

ner of Farrell & Webster Church rds. (between Joy & North Territorial), Webster Twp. Free admission. Pig roast: $9 (children, $5). 426–5115.

★**"Apple Day": Pittsfield Union Grange.** A chance to press apple cider, make applesauce and apple butter, and taste a variety of different apples. Also, an apple baked goods sale. If you wish to make cider, bring jugs and your favorite apples; apples also for sale at the Grange. *10 a.m.–4 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). Free. 769–1052.*

"Autumn Equinox Celebration and Harvest Party": U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens. All kids, accompanied by a parent, invited to gather fruits and veggies from the Gaffield Children's Garden to make pickles and sauce to take home. *10 a.m.–noon, Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro. $5 per child (includes materials and conservatory admission). 647–7600.*

Country Fair: Wiard's Orchards. See 17 Saturday. 11 a.m.

U-M Football vs. San Diego St. *Afternoon time TBA, Michigan Stadium. $70. 764–0247.*

★**LezRead Book Club.** All lesbians invited to discuss a book TBA. *4–6 p.m., Jim Toy Community Center, 319 Braun Ct. Free. 663–0036.*

Scandinavian Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Bruce Sagan and Suzanne Schluederberg teach traditional turning couple dances, mainly from Sweden and Norway, including hambo, schottis, polska, waltz, and more. All dances taught. No partner or experience needed. Bring flat shoes with smooth hard soles. *5–7 p.m., 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). $5 (students, $3). (908) 721–2599.*

16th Annual Gimme Shelter: Interfaith Hospitality Network of Washtenaw County. Strolling dinner with beer & wine, a silent auction of items donated by local businesses, and a wine pull offering a chance to win bottles of wine worth $25–$250. Also, live music by pianist Brandy Sinco. A benefit for the local family-oriented homeless shelter, Alpha House. *6–9:30 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. $55 in advance, $60 at the door. 822–0220.*

"Jack and the Beantin": Saline Area Players. See 23 Friday. 4:30 & 7 p.m.

"Othello": Blackbird Theatre Shakespeare West. See 9 Friday. 7 p.m.

"Night Terrors": Wiard's Orchards. *Every Fri & Sat. Sept. 24–Oct. 29, every Sun. Oct. 9–30, and Oct. 31.* Six different scary attractions—including a haunted hayride, alien caged clowns, the Asylum, and more—bristling with over 115 costumed monsters. Refreshments available. *7:15–11:30 p.m. 5565 Merritt Rd., Ypsilanti. $16 for access to one area; $40.99 for all areas. 482–7744.*

"Body and Soul: An Interfaith Experience of Music and Sacred Tests in Action": Interfaith Round Table of Washtenaw County Benefit Concert. Canterbury House music director and U-M music professor **Stephen Rush,** who performs keyboards and various noise-making toys, and the Canterbury House house band **Quartex** perform a program of liturgical musical settings of scriptural passages, poems, plays, and other spiritual texts submitted by leaders of various area religious traditions. The program was created by Rush and Canterbury House chaplain Reid Hamilton according to methods proposed in their book, *Better Get It in Your Soul: What Liturgists Can Learn from Jazz.* Preceded at 7 p.m. by Indian hors d'oeuvres. *7:30 p.m., Hindu Chinmaya Mission, 4760 Packard. $25–$50 donation. 424–1535.*

4th Saturday English and American Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Contras, squares, English, and country dances with live music. No partner needed. All dances taught. Wear flat, smooth-soled shoes. *8–11 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). $10. 260–9027.*

"A Grand Night for Singing": U-M School of Music. Performances by the **University Choir, Chamber Choir, Men's Glee Club, Women's Glee Club,** and **Orpheus Singers.** Also, art songs and opera scenes by U-M musical theater students. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $5–$18 in advance at the Michigan League and tickets.music.umich.edu. 764–2538.*

★**"Javanese Shadow Puppet Play: *Kresna Duta*": U-M Center for Southeast Asian Studies.** Indonesian Institute of the Arts (Surakarta, Java) **puppeteer Jaka Riyanto** performs a shadow puppet depiction of this episode from the pan-Asian Mahabharata epic. Translated as "Kresna the Envoy," it tells the story of a messenger sent by the king of the Pandawas to request promised lands from the Kurawas. When the king of the Kurawas learns of Kresna's assignment, he attempts to have him poisoned, and war breaks out. *8–9:30 p.m., 2435 North Quad, 105 S. State. Free, but tickets required. 764–0352.*

Mark Morris Dance Group: University Musical Society. See 23 Friday. 8 p.m.

"The Light in the Piazza": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 8 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"1940s Radio Hour": Shut the Front Door Theater. See 23 Friday. 8 p.m.

"ACT: Two One-Acts": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre Studio Series. See 23 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Escanaba in da Moonlight": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 22 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Long Day's Journey Into Night": PTD Productions. See 22 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Time Stands Still": Performance Network Professional Season. See 23 Friday. 8 p.m.

Kevin Zeoli: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 23 Friday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

★**"24-Hour Theater": U-M Basement Arts.** This U-M student theater troupe kicks off its season with its most popular event, a wild evening of one-act plays created and rehearsed only since yesterday. *10 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Studio 1, 1226 Murfin (North Campus). Free. basement.studentorgs.umich.edu*

25 SUNDAY

Fall Scramble: Ann Arbor Parks Department. Each golfer hits every shot from the spot of the best ball of their threesome. Open to all; no handicaps. *9 a.m., Leslie Park Golf Course, 2120 Traver Rd. $50 per person (includes greens fee, continental breakfast, lunch, & prizes). Preregistration required. 794–6245.*

15th Annual Orphan Car Show: Ypsilanti Automotive Heritage Collection. A display of extremely rare "orphan cars" whose parent companies are long out of business. At 10:30 a.m., cars drive by with narration by several automotive historians. This year's show features orphan trucks. Also, cars, trucks, roadsters, utility vehicles, and motor scooters dating from nearly every decade of the 20th century, as well as choice rarities like propeller-driven amphibious cars. Proceeds benefit the collection. *9:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m., Riverside Park, Ypsilanti. $5 (kids age 11 & under accompanied by an adult, free). 482–5200.*

★**Tractor Pull: Michigan Tractor Pullers Association.** A day of old-time tractor-pullin' fun, with farm stock, classic, and antique classes, as well as 4WD pick-ups. The vehicles pull against the weight transfer machine, a device that makes the weight heavier as the pull progresses. Particularly exciting is the rowdy farm stock class, which has no speed limit out of the gate. "We go as fast as our horsepower allows," says an organizer. Concessions. *10 a.m.–around 4 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free admission. 587–3466.*

★**"Paella Party": Zingerman's Delicatessen.** Zingerman's Chef Rodger Bowser demonstrates how to prepare 3 kinds of this popular Valencian dish, chicken/chorizo, seafood, and vegetarian. *11 a.m.–2 p.m., Zingerman's patio, 422 Detroit St. Free. 663–3400.*

★**"23rd Annual Apples & Honey": Jewish Community Center.** An afternoon of entertainment, cultural activities, and information about Jewish life in celebration of Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year. The event's title derives from the Rosh Hashanah custom of dipping an apple in honey and saying a prayer for a sweet new year. Outside, under a huge tent, displays from local and national Jewish organizations and sale of gift items and food from various local Jewish organizations, along with challah and other kosher baked goods from Detroit bakeries. Also, apples for tasting and carving. Children's activities include face painting, inflatable slides and jumpers, clowns and jugglers, and hands-on Judaic activities including a chance to make your own shofar. Lunch available. *Noon–3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $4 (family, $12; children under 2, free). Reservations requested. 971–0990.*

39th Annual Old West Side Homes Tour: Old West Side Association. A popular annual tour of 7 selected buildings in Ann Arbor's historic Old West Side, an area originally settled by German immigrants and rich in circa-1900 Midwestern architecture. The neighborhood was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1972. This year's tour is highlighted by a cozy workman's cottage with refinished woodwork and floors at 805 5th St. and a restored and refurbished home, saved from ruin in 2009 after sitting vacant for ten years, at 508 4th St. Free bus transportation is provided between sites. Visitors are asked to remove shoes before entering homes. No cameras, backpacks, babies, or children age 12 & younger. *Noon–5 p.m. Tickets & maps $8 (seniors, $7) in advance at Washtenaw Dairy, Jefferson Market & Cakery, Downtown Home & Garden, Peaceable Kingdom, and Nicola's Books; $10 day of tour at Community of Christ Church, 520 W. Jefferson. 930–6932.*

19th Annual Ann Arbor AIDS Walk. A 5-km pledge walk through downtown Ann Arbor to raise funds for local nonprofit AIDS agencies. Food and music at

the finish line. Prizes. *1 p.m. (registration begins at noon), Main and William. Pledge forms available at aidswalkmichigan.org or by calling 572–9355.*

★**"New Millennium East Meets West Kite Festival": U-M Center for Chinese Studies.** Kite-flying demos by kite masters from China and Michigan, including the renowned Beijing kite master **Ha Yiqi.** The public is also invited to bring kites to fly or enter in kite competitions and challenges. Also, a community art table, and Chinese ribbon dancing, yo-yo demos, lion dances, taiko drumming, zither music, and other entertainment. The festival is preceded on Sept. 23 by a **"Kite Fly-a-thon"** (5–7 p.m., U-M Ferry Field), a chance to test your kites and flight skills. Also, the city hosts free **"Kite Days"** (noon–2 p.m.) with kite-flying and kite-building workshops at Allmendinger Park (Sept. 11) and Buhr Park (Sept. 18). *1–5 p.m., U-M Nichols Arboretum, 1610 Washington Hts. Free. 764–6308.*

Dan Zanes & Friends: University Musical Society. Sophisticated yet fun kids music—*Rolling Stone* calls Zanes "a happy alternative to Raffi"—by this Grammy-nominated singer-songwriter, the former frontman of the Del Fuegos, the influential 80s Boston-based rock 'n' roll band. Singing in a voice that combines a Tom Waits rasp with the energy of Mick Jagger, Zanes mixes standards like "Polly Wolly Doodle" and "On the Sunny Side of the Street" performed on banjo and mandolin with original rock songs and reggae- and calypso-inflected tunes performed on electric guitar. His concerts generally begin with a sing-along and end with an all-ages dance party. Zanes returns to Ann Arbor to play songs from his new album, *Little Nut Tree*, his first family album in five years and self-styled as his "grooviest." He performs with his backup band. *1 & 4 p.m., Power Center, 121 Fletcher. Tickets $16 (children, $8) at the Michigan League and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538 or (800) 221–1229.*

★**"Hookers, Crooks, and Kooks: Aunt Merle Didn't Run a Boarding House": Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County.** Talk by veteran Ohio genealogist Jana Sloan Broglin, a director of the Federation of Genealogical Societies. Followed by **"The Key to the Courthouse,"** a talk by genealogist Jana Sloan Broglin on accessing and using court records. *1:30 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center auditorium, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off E. Huron River Dr. at Clark Rd.). Use parking lot P and look for the club's signs. Free. 483–2799.*

★**Fall Equinox Ritual: Shining Lakes Grove.** All invited to join local Druids as they honor Ana, the goddess of the Huron River. Potluck (bring a dish to pass and table service) and raffle. Preceded by a Sept. 24 overnight fire watch. *2–5 p.m., Botsford Recreational Preserve, 3015 Miller Rd. (just west of M-14 overpass). Free. 277–1897.*

★**Pittsfield Township Harvest Festival: Pittsfield Township Historical Society.** Family-friendly event with old-time craft demos, wagon rides, old-time yard games, petting farm, yard games, tours of the farm buildings and house, display of historic photos, costume awards for 1850–1900 period clothing, and more. Live music TBA. Bake sale. *2–5 p.m., Sutherland Wilson Farm Museum, 797 W. Textile Rd. (west of S. State). Free. 822–2120.*

★**"Multiple Impressions: Contemporary Chinese Woodblock Prints": UMMA.** Guest curator and U-M Asian languages professor **Xiaobing Tang** is joined by noted Chinese printmakers **Limin Fang** and **Yuanfan Zhang** in a discussion of the current exhibit. Fang, whose work is part of the exhibit, is known for his skill in the water-printing method of woodblock printing. *2 p.m., UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 763–UMMA.*

★**"African Drum Music with Kevin Collins": Ann Arbor District Library.** A veteran jazz musician who directs the African Drum and Dance Troupe in Flint, Collins presents a program of African music performed on the djembe, a skin-covered African drum. *2–3 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Ancient Conscience": U-M Modern Greek Program 10th Annual Platsis Symposium on the Greek Legacy.** Talks by NYU classics professor David Konstan and Oxford University philosophy professor Richard Sorabji. Reception follows. *2–5 p.m., Rackham Amphitheatre. Free. 936–6099.*

★**Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild.** All invited to listen to guild members swap stories or bring their own to tell. *2–4 p.m., Nicola's Books, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 971–5763.*

★**"Memorial Concert: The Legacy of H. Dennis Smith": U-M School of Music.** Performances by current and former U-M trombone students in honor of U-M trombone professor emeritus Smith, who recently passed away. *2 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

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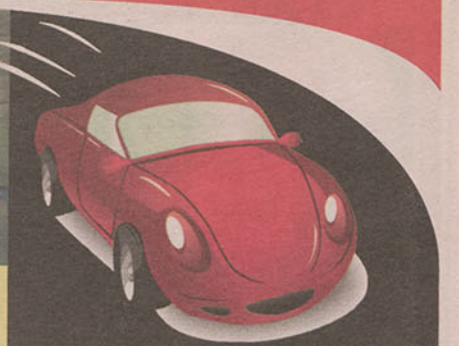

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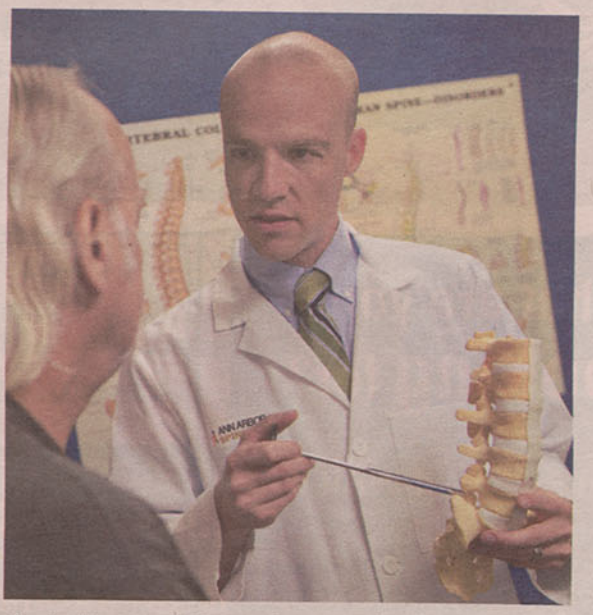

We're pleased to welcome Andrew Egger, MD to Ann Arbor Spine Center as its newest spine specialist, fellowship-trained in spine care. Dr. Egger is now accepting new patients related to back and neck pain at Ann Arbor Spine Center and the satellite locations in Brighton, Novi and Chelsea.

Dr. Egger is a native of Michigan. He earned his medical degree at Michigan State University and completed his residency in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Temple University Hospital-Moss Rehab in Philadelphia. During his residency, he served as Clinical Instructor at Temple University School of Medicine and Chief Resident in the Department of PM&R. Dr. Egger has completed a fellowship in Interventional Pain Management for spine. A fellowship is the highest level of medical education in the U.S. Dr. Egger is proficient in the non-surgical treatment of back and neck pain symptoms. This includes the use of lumbar and thoracic epidural steroid injections, facet joint injections, medial branch injections and electrodiagnostic testing (EMGs). Before joining Ann Arbor Spine Center, Dr. Egger had a spine practice with Performance Spine and Sports Physicians in Pennsylvania.

Within his role at Ann Arbor Spine Center, Dr. Egger is involved with the evaluation, diagnosis and treatment of back and neck pain problems, including the use of EMGs and injection therapy. He specializes in helping people with back and neck pain recover from symptoms non-surgically. Dr. Egger is pleased to be back in Michigan where he grew up. He and his wife look forward to raising their family in the Ann Arbor area.

Ann Arbor Spine Center includes the expertise of Carrie Stewart, MD, another specialist in non-surgical spine care, three neuro spine surgeons, three ortho spine surgeons, and a team of affiliated spine specialized therapists. If you would like to make an appointment, call 734-434-4110. As a community service, Ann Arbor Spine Center mails out a free 36-page Home Remedy Book for back pain. Call us and we'll send you a copy.

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"Escanaba in da Moonlight": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 22 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Jack and the Beantin": Saline Area Players. See 23 Friday. 2 & 4:30 p.m.

"Long Day's Journey Into Night": PTD Productions. See 22 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Time Stands Still": Performance Network Professional Season. See 23 Friday. 2 p.m.

"The Light in the Piazza": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 8 Thursday. 3 p.m.

★**Fall Concert: Chelsea Chamber Players.** This local ensemble performs Grieg's String Quartet and Mozart's String Quartet in A major. Members are violinists Paula Elliott and Nathan Peters, violist Ian Cumming, and cellist Sara Cumming. *3 p.m., Chelsea Depot, 125 Jackson, Chelsea. Free. 475–0433.*

Sunday Matinee Puppet Show: Dreamland Theater. See 4 Sunday. 3:30 p.m.

★**"2nd Annual Cheese Makers of the State Tasting": Zingerman's Creamery.** Top cheese makers from around Michigan discuss and offer taste samples of their cheeses. *4–6 p.m., Zingerman's Creamery, 3723 Plaza Dr. $25. 929–0500.*

★**"Rembrandt, the Jews, and the Image of Jesus": Jewish Community Center.** First in a series of 3 monthly lectures by University of Texas history professor Miriam Bodian. In conjunction with the current DIA exhibit *Rembrandt's Amsterdam and the Jews. 4–5:30 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $85 (JCC members, $70) for the 3-lecture series. 971–0990.*

★**"Scholarship Showcase": U-M School of Music.** Music, theater, and dance performances by U-M scholarship recipients. *4 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre, 911 North University. Free, but tickets required in advance at the Michigan League and tickets.music.umich.edu. 764–2538.*

★**Alexander Trio: EMU Music Department.** This EMU music faculty trio—violinist Daniel Foster, cellist Diane Winder, and pianist Joseph Gurt—performs a program of chamber music TBA. *4 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

American Romanian Festival: Kerrytown Concert House. A quartet of musicians led by Romanian-born DSO violinist Marian Tanau performs a new work by renowned Romanian composer Cornel Taranu, a guest at the festival. Also, a performance of George Crumb's avant-garde *Black Angels* and Romanian composer Theodor Rogalski's String Quartet. Other performers are WSU violin professor Laura Roelofs, EMU viola professor Eva Stern, and Flint Symphony cellist Judith Vander Weg. *4 p.m. KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $25–10, (students, $5). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

★**Michaelmas Festival: Great Lakes Branch of the Anthroposophical Society in America.** Potluck dinner (bring a dish to pass), followed by a program TBA. Children age 5 & older welcome. *6 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes. Free. Wheelchair accessible. 485–3764.*

26 MONDAY

★**"Plugging In and Hooking Up: Casual Sex and Social Media": U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender.** Panel discussion with U-M public health professor **Jose Bauermeister,** U-M psychology and women's studies professor **Terri Conley,** and U-M information and public health professor **Tiffany Veinot.** *Noon–1:30 p.m., 2239 Lane Hall, 204 S. State. Free. 764–9537.*

★**Greg Schutz: Concordia University Books and Coffee Series.** Concordia English professor Schutz reads from his recently published short stories. *4 p.m., Earhart Manor, 4090 Geddes at Earhart. Free. 995–7389.*

★**"Yoga for Women Experiencing Perimenopause and Menopause": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local yoga teacher Victoria Duranona leads a program of kundalini yoga exercises. *7–8:45 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–4555.*

★**"Colorblind: The Rise of Post-Racial Politics and the Retreat from Racial Equity": Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice Racial Justice Book Group.** All invited to join a discussion of the preface and first section of Tim Wise's book. *7–9 p.m., St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 1679 Broadway. Free. Child care available with advance notice. 663–1870.*

27 TUESDAY

★**"Managing a 21st-Century Security Agenda: U.S. Foreign Policy Beyond Iraq and Afghanistan": U-M Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies.** Talk by University of Denver School of International Studies dean Josef Korbel, a former U.S. ambassador to Macedonia, Poland, Korea, and Iraq. *4–5:30 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater. Free. 764–0351.*

fiction/nonfiction

Ghost Writers

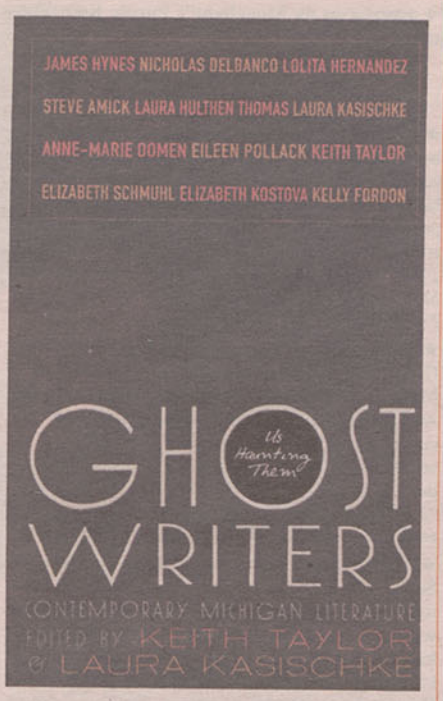
Michigan's lions and tigers and bears

Keith Taylor usually reviews books here, but he also writes them, mostly poetry and short fiction. He and fellow poet and fiction writer Laura Kasischke gathered together some Michigan writers and asked each to contribute a ghost story. The result is *Ghost Writers* (Wayne State University Press). Subtitled *Contemporary Michigan Literature,* it's part of a Michigan-focused series, which makes it less likely that this dazzling collection will show up on the *New York Times* bestseller list, but it sure makes it all the more tantalizing to us locals.

Editors Taylor and Kasischke explain in their preface that they believe a good ghost story always revolves around a place, but the place can be a park or a field or a house, not necessarily a recognizable Michigan landscape. So while all of these stories are set in Michigan, some are more securely so than others. Some are out of the Twilight Zone; some interpret "ghost" more loosely. Most are fiction, but a few are taken from life. All are beautifully written. As poets, the editors are clearly suckers for musical language and nicely ordered words.

Kasischke doesn't mention a place at all in her "Ghost Anecdote," though if she needed one to go with the dope smoking and the Christians, she nicely describes my hometown, Kalamazoo, in the 1970s. You can tell Kasischke is a poet. Only a poet could so finely distill a Christian teen meeting into: "There were some Bible verses, and a lot more hugging, the smell of cookies getting overcooked on an aluminum pan, and then the music."

A few other standouts do capture an indelible geographical essence, including Taylor's own "The Man at the Edge," a story addressing race and mostly set in Detroit. The race it addresses isn't blackness but whiteness—especially in a startling scene, set in the DIA, that addresses whiteness, not in relief against blackness, but through the contemplation of a Brueghel painting.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GHOST
Us Haunting Them
WRITERS
CONTEMPORARY MICHIGAN LITERATURE
EDITED BY KEITH TAYLOR & LAURA KASISCHKE

A tough, sinewy tale of hard work and hard marriage ("Bitchathane," by Ann-Marie Oomen) deserves a permanent spot in the UP canon. In "Bones on Bois Blanc," Laura Hulthen Thomas tells a wonderfully classic ghost story, with plenty of spooky multigenerational family dysfunction, but she also hilariously evokes the trapped feeling of going insane in a marriage, with a husband who begins nearly every sentence with the teeth-knashingly predictable, "Looking at it rationally …"

But the "Only in Michigan" prize goes to Steve Amick's "Not Even Lions and Tigers," a work of brilliant historical fiction. A bizarre corner of local history inspired this story, and it's so weird that it's incomprehensible without some external factual orientation. I read it with one hand on the book and the other on the Wikipedia entry for Harry Bennett, a real-life creep show I had never heard of.

Amick and several other contributors to *Ghost Stories* read from their stories at the U-M Residential College on September 29.

—Sally Mitani

Family Math Night: Clonlara School. Kids in grades K–8 and their families invited to take part in a variety of fun and educational activities designed to improve math and logical thinking skills. Prizes. *6–8 p.m. Clonlara School, 1289 Jewett (between Packard and South Industrial). Free. 925–2617.*

Jennifer Granholm: Nicola's Books. The former Michigan governor discusses her new book, *A Governor's Story: The Fight for Jobs and America's Fight for the Future.* Signing. *7 p.m., Michigan Theater. $10 & $15 ($30 includes a copy of the book). 662–0600.*

★University Philharmonia Orchestra: U-M School of Music. Christopher James Lees conducts this music student ensemble in a program inspired by dramatic works in various genres—from literature to ballet to opera. Program: Wagner's Prelude to *Die Meistersinger von Nuerenburg,* Barber's *Music for a Scene from Shelley,* Faure's *Pelleas et Melisande,* and Tchaikovsky's *Romeo and Juliet Fantasy Overture. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

28 WEDNESDAY

★"Health Care Reform: What It Means for Seniors": U-M Turner Senior Resource Center. Talk by U-M internal medicine professor David Cooke. *10–11:30 a.m., Turner, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

★Chen Limin: UMMA. This young printmaker and painter discusses her work and the challenges and opportunities for women pursuing careers as artists in China today. Her work is part of the current exhibit *Multiple Impressions: Contemporary Chinese Woodblock Prints. 5 p.m., UMMA multipurpose room, 525 S. State. Free. 763–UMMA.*

★Bathhouse Reading Series: EMU English Department. Poetry readings by 3 EMU creative writing teachers, **Laura Wetherington, Jill Darling,** and **Sara Williams.** *5–6:45 p.m., EMU Sponberg Theater, Ford St. (off Lowell from Huron River Dr.), Ypsilanti. Free. 487–1310.*

Rosh Hashanah Observance: Ann Arbor Jewish Cultural Society. A secular celebration of the Jewish New Year, with readings, meditation, and music. Also, apples & honey, challah & honey cake, coffee & wine. Child care provided. All invited. The price of admission also includes **Kol Nidre** *(Oct. 7, 7 p.m.)* and **Yom Kippur** *(Oct. 8, 2 p.m.)* observances and a **Break the Fast** meal *(Oct. 8, 6:30–9 p.m.),* all held at the JCC. Also, a free (reservations required) **Tashlich Observance** (Sept. 29, noon, Island Park, off Maiden Ln. between Broadway and Fuller) features a secular ceremony celebrating the Jewish New Year with readings, meditation, and music. *7–9 p.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $25 (student, $10; family, $50) per observance, $50 (student, $25; family, $100) for all 3 observances. Reservations required at info@jewishculturalsociety.org. 975–9872.*

Bonsai Auction: Ann Arbor Bonsai Society. Show and auction of bonsai equipment, trees, and pots by club members. *7 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free admission. 747–6493. 812–5702.*

★MiRobotClub. Robotics hobbyists work on and discuss their current projects. Visitors welcome. *7 p.m., Maker Works, 3765 Plaza Dr. (off Airport Blvd. north of Ellsworth). Free. (517) 618–9546.*

★History of Science Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers. All invited to join a discussion

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of *Time, Love, Memory: A Great Biologist and His Quest for the Origins of Behavior,* Jonathan Weiner's biography of Seymour Benzer, a pioneer of molecular biology and behavioral genetics. *7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669–0451.*

"Escanaba in da Moonlight": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 22 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

29 THURSDAY

★Autumn Barn & Porch Sale and Festival: Dixboro General Store. *Sept. 29–Oct. 2.* This charming country store housed in an old farmhouse opens its historic barns for this festival, which includes daily performances by a band TBA. Refreshments. *10 a.m.–8 p.m. (Sept. 29 & 30), 10 a.m.–6 p.m. (Oct. 1), & 10 a.m.–5 p.m. (October 2), Dixboro General Store, 5206 Plymouth Rd., just east of Dixboro Rd. Free admission. 663–5558.*

★"Unnatural Selection: Choosing Boys Over Girls, and the Consequences of a World Full of Men": U-M Center for South Asian Studies. Award-winning journalist **Mara Hvistendahl** discusses her book about reproductive technology, sex selection, and the far-reaching consequences of gender imbalance in Asia. The *Washington Post* calls it "a disturbing, engrossing book." *4 p.m., Palmer Commons Forum Hall, 100 Washtenaw. Free. 764–0448.*

★U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series. See 8 Thursday. Today: University of Houston English professor **Tony Hoagland**, an award-winning poet whose witty, poignant poems earned him the Poetry Foundation Mark Twain Award for his contribution to humor in American poetry. "Tony Hoagland's imagination ranges thrillingly across manners, morals, sexual doings, kinds of speech both lyrical and candid, intimate as well as wild," writes the American Academy of Arts and Letters. His latest book, *Unincorporated Persons in the Late Honda Dynasty*, has been praised for its entertaining plain-spoken style. 5:10 p.m.

★"Psychic Psychology: Energy Skills for Life and Relationships": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room Salon. Local psychic John Friedlander, a member of Jane Roberts' original Seth channeling group, discusses and teaches 2 basic psychic exercises from his book. He also answers a few audience questions clairvoyantly. Signing. *7 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★"Daughter of Smoke & Bones": Nicola's Books. Portland (OR) novelist **Laini Taylor,** author of the National Book Award–nominated *Lips Touch,* reads from and discusses her new fantasy novel about a beautiful young art student with a sketchbook full of monsters. Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's Books, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★Ben Jansson Jazz Quartet: Ann Arbor District Library. This jazz ensemble, led by Ann Arbor–bred saxophonist and recent U-M grad Jansson, performs a program featuring **"The Music of Thelonious Monk."** With pianist Duncan McMillan, bassist Paul Keller, and drummer Sean Dobbins. *7–8 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★"Ghost Writers: Us Haunting Them": U-M Residential College. *See review, p. 81.* U-M undergrad creative writing program director **Keith Taylor** hosts a series of readings from this collection of 12 Michigan-themed fictional and nonfictional ghost stories he co-edited with U-M English professor **Laura Kasischke.** Contributors reading tonight include Kasischke, RC creative writing lecturers **Lolita Hernandez** and **Laura Thomas,** recent RC grad **Elizabeth Schmuhl,** and local novelist **Steve Amick.** *7:30 p.m., RC Benzinger Library, East Quad, 701 East University. Free. 763–0176.*

"The Light in the Piazza": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 8 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

★"Mysterious Morning": U-M School of Music. Saxophonist **John Sampen** and composer-engineer **Mark Bunce**—both artists-in-residence at Bowling Green State University—perform their multidisciplinary show that combines video and interactive electronics with recorded readings by composers featured in the performance, including John Cage, Toru Takemitsu, Morton Subotnick, Fuminori Tanada, Marilyn Shrude, William Bolcom, and Bunce. *8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764–0594.*

Fleet Foxes: The Ark/AEG Live. Highly regarded Seattle-based folk-rock sextet whose late 60s-inspired music has provoked comparisons to Crosby, Stills, & Nash and the Beach Boys for its lyrical depth and resonant vocal harmonies. "With *Helplessness Blues,* Fleet Foxes triumphantly deliver on the promise of their popular debut, the album that helped establish folk-rock once again as a formidable commercial force rather than just a fringe interest," says *The Independent* (UK) critic Andy Gill in his review of the band's new CD. "Those chiming guitars, Robin Pecknold's open, fulsome vocals, the ringing multi-part harmonies—all are strikingly distinctive, even in a genre where acoustic guitars and harmonies are staple elements." Opening act is **The Walkmen,** an acclaimed New York City quintet whose garage-spirited, deeply textured postpunk rock 'n' roll features ragged, catchy vocals, spooky organ lines, crashing drums, and gritty guitar lines. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $34 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (800) 745–3000.*

"Escanaba in da Moonlight": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 22 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Long Day's Journey Into Night": PTD Productions. See 22 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Time Stands Still": Performance Network Professional Season. See 23 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

30 FRIDAY

★"Lunchtime Tours": UMMA. Student docents give a 30-minute tour of the art museum. *12:15–12:45 p.m., meet at the UMMA information desk, 525 S. State. Free. 764–UMMA.*

ChelseaMaze: Scared to the Bone Productions. *Every Fri.–Sun., Sept. 30–Oct. 30.* Fifteen-acre corn maze featuring trivia questions to help you get out, along with a "creepy cornfield." Also, hayrides after 6 p.m. and evening bonfires. Concessions. Pumpkins available. Flashlight required after dark; bring your own or rent one. *6–11 p.m. (Fri.), 1–11 p.m. (Sat.), & 1–6 p.m. (Sun.), 1/4 mile south of I-94 on the west side of M-52, Chelsea. $7 until 6 p.m. & $10 after 6 p.m. (children age 4 & under, free). (517) 214–0613.*

★"Comics to Screenplay": Ann Arbor District Library. Veteran Hamtramck cartoonist **Matt Feazell** discusses how he adapted his long-running comic strip *The Amazing Cynicalman* into a feature-length screenplay. *7–8 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

"Night Terrors": Wiard's Orchards. See 24 Saturday. 7:15 p.m.

★"Caring for the Earth": Karma Thegsum Choling. Talk by Lama Karma Drodul, a teacher with the Karma Triyana Dharmachakra (Woodstock, NY) Tibetan Buddhist monastery. *7:30–9 p.m., KTC, 614 Miner. Free. 678–7549.*

★Symphony Band & Women of the Chamber Choir: U-M School of Music. Michael Haithcock conducts these music student ensembles in Ron Nelson's powerful *Epiphanies,* Bach's *Passacaglia* and Fugue in C minor, Grainger's *Three Miniatures,* and Susan Botti's *Cosmosis.* Also, the world premiere of Botti's *Terra Cruda.* Preceded at 7:15 p.m. in the lower lobby by a lecture about the program by Botti and Haithcock. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0594.*

"The Naughty List: Baroque Chamber Music By Braggarts, Hotheads, Curmudgeons and Snobs": Wayward Sisters (Academy of Early Music). *See review, p. 83.* This Chicago-based early-music trio presents a program of music by Baroque composers with challenging and often disagreeable temperaments, including Matthew Locke, Tarquinio Merula, William Brade, Dario Castello, Nicola Matteis, and Handel. The Wayward Sisters are violinist Beth Wenstrom, recorder player Anne Timberlake, and cellist Anna Steinhoff, an Ann Arbor native who also played with the local folk-rock band Saturday Looks Good to Me and rock-classical improvisational ensemble Flashpapr. *8 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. $20 (seniors & members, $17; students, $5) in advance at Nicola's Books and AcademyofEarlyMusic.org, and at the door. 528–1838.*

Tom Russell: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Veteran Texas-based L.A.-bred singer-songwriter whose folk-based songs, often set in a noir version of the American West, explore and celebrate the spiritual struggles of ordinary people with a revelatory acuity and warmth. He is best known for several song cycle CDs, including *The Man from God Knows Where,* a widely acclaimed exploration of the experiences of his ancestors' move to America in the early 19th century that deftly incorporates Irish and Norwegian musical elements, and *Hotwalker: Charles Bukowski and a Ballad for Gone America,* a portrait of the outsider cultural voices of the 1960s that blends original songs, narration, and the actual voices of everyone from circus midgets to Jack Kerouac, Charles Bukowski, and Lenny Bruce. Russell's new CD, *Mesabi,* is a collection of songs he says emerged out of "looking back at … the institutions which forged my youth: [Catholic] Church, Hollywood, Mexican Border Towns, and Bob Dylan." *8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. $20 (kids age 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 662–4536, 665–8558.*

"The American Crowbar Case": New Theatre Project. *Sept. 30 and Oct. 1, 7–9, 14–16, & 21–23.*

baroque music

The Wayward Sisters

Finding beauty in plagues and jerks

There are precious few things worth spending a spectacularly beautiful Sunday afternoon indoors for, and if you'd told me that one of them would be a recital by the Wayward Sisters of a program called "Ashes, Ashes: Music and Plague," I'd have said it wasn't possible.

And I'd have been wrong. The Wayward Sisters—Beth Wenstrom on baroque violin, Anne Timberlake on recorder, and Anna Steinhoff on baroque cello—joined by honorary wayward brother John Lenti on the theorbo (a giant lute)—put on a spectacularly beautiful show inside the lovely Community Church of Christ on a Sunday in late spring a year ago. As you might have guessed, the program featured music by baroque composers whose lives were touched, altered, and sometimes ended by the last outbreak of the plague in Europe. The music itself was only lightly touched by the plague because, being baroque music, it is stylistically some of the most extravagantly expressive music written in the last five hundred years.

The Sisters were totally up for it and deeply into it. Each is an amazing virtuosa, and it would be hard to pick a favorite. Not only could Wenstrom execute the most fearsome runs with breathtaking ease, she could make the most singing tones come out of her violin without ever resorting to anachronistic vibrato. Then there was Timberlake's preternaturally persuasive recorder playing, sweet most of the time, stinging the rest of the time, and sensitive all of the time. And let's not forget Steinhoff, no mean soloist herself, whose soulful cello is the rhythmic heart of the group. Backed by Lenti's swinging theorbo, the Sisters wailed on a program that would have intimidated lesser musicians.

As for the music, it was a mixture of Italians Giovanni Fontana, Tarquinio Merula, Dario Castello, and Salamone Rossi and Englishmen Matthew Locke and Henry Purcell. Some works featured the recorder, others the violin, and some both—and those were the best, because listening to Wenstrom and Timberlake trading lines above Steinhoff and Lenti's supple but solid rhythm section was enough to make me forget all about how beautiful it was outside.

On September 30, the Wayward Sisters will be back to open the Academy of Early Music concert season at St. Andrew's Church. This time, they're bringing a program as distinctive as their last one: featuring some of the composers from the plague program along with composers such as Handel and Nicola Matteis, it's titled "The Naughty List: Music of Braggarts, Snobs, Curmudgeons and Jerks."

"Another [naming] option for the same program had been 'Copper-Nos'd, Sparrow-Mouth'd, Goggle-Ey'd: The Music of Difficult Men," explains cellist Steinhoff. "But we decided that Difficult Men might be off-putting to some guests."

—James Leonard

NTP artistic director Keith Paul Medelis directs this new local company in NTP playwright-in-residence Jason Sebacher and the local pop-folk duo Match by Match's musical inspired by the life of Phineas Gage, a railroad worker who survived 12 years after an iron tamping rod blasted through his skull, taking out much of his brain's left frontal lobe. Cast: TBA. *8 p.m., Mix Performance Space, 130 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti. Sept. 30 & Oct. 1 previews are pay-what-you-can. Regular admission is $15 (students & seniors, $10) in advance at tickets@thenewtheatreproject.org and at the door. 645–9776.*

"1940s Radio Hour": Shut the Front Door Theater. See 23 Friday. 8 p.m.

"ACT: Two One-Acts": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre Studio Series. See 23 Friday. 8 p.m.

"The Light in the Piazza": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 8 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Escanaba in da Moonlight": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 22 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Long Day's Journey Into Night": PTD Productions. See 22 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Time Stands Still": Performance Network Professional Season. See 23 Friday. 8 p.m.

Brian Regan: Live Nation. This very popular stand-up comic from Miami is a winner of the 1996 American Comedy Award for Male Stand-Up of the Year. He has had 2 Showtime specials and is a frequent guest on network and cable TV. His humor is known for its winning blend of warmth, hilarity, and sharp wit, and his material ranges from self-deprecating stories about childhood traumas to bizarro takes on such matters as the serving size of Fig Newtons and the instructions on Pop Tart boxes. "I like the first part of the joke, the setup, to be true," says Regan. "Then the punch line can either be an exaggeration or something twisted all to hell, sort of like a party balloon animal." *8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $45–$54.75 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (800) 745–3000.*

Michael Malone: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Sept. 30 & Oct. 1.* Ann Arbor debut of this veteran stand-up comic, a frequent guest on TV and syndicated radio who's known for his intense, rubber-faced onstage persona, consumed with wildly imaginative worries about the world and what it holds for him. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 & 10:30 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). $10 reserved seating in advance, $12 general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

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Miscellaneous

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The **Classifieds deadline** for the October issue is September 9.

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Real Estate

The **Classifieds deadline** for the October issue is September 9.

Homes for Sale

The **Classifieds deadline** for the October issue is September 9.

Hide away in nature close to town. Beautiful quiet backyard filled with gorgeous trees on one-acre lot just outside city near Saginaw Forest. See the yard from a large wooden deck with a hot tub or from a lovely solarium off master bedroom. Mid-century modern bilevel well off the road. Three bedrooms, 1.5 baths, large living area with huge picture window, finished lower level with built-in office space and large storage areas. Efficient hot-water heat and new AC in three zones. Short commute to downtown or to Dexter. Priced to sell fast at $199,000. Call Lu Parsons at Keller Williams, 649–8698.

PHOTO J. ADRAIN WYLIE

Real Estate

Residential and Commercial Properties
in Washtenaw and Livingston Counties

PHOTO J. ADRAIN WYLIE

2117 WASHTENAW, ANN ARBOR—Rare opportunity to own the prominent Tuomy House. Built in 1858 this landmark home sits on 2 acres in the middle of town with 340 ft of frontage on Washtenaw and 260 ft on Tuomy. Home has wide board floors and fantastic woodwork. Rear wing of house has potential for mother-in-law or office suite. Home and yard are full of potential. This grand residence has been used for academic and cultural functions for over 30 years and will require reconversion to residential use. MLS #3105730. $562,500.

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NW ANN ARBOR – This gorgeous, custom-built home by Henry Landau rests on a 8+ acre country estate. Grounds include extensive landscaping, circle drive, and outbuilding. Home is rock solid with an all-brick exterior. Interior features include two-story living room, striking dining room with barrel ceiling, custom kitchen, dream master suite and finished walkout basement. $999,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NE ANN ARBOR - Incredible 32-acre estate property just minutes to Ann Arbor, U-M, and hospitals. This property is breathtaking. This custom-built home rests in the heart of mature forest. Enjoy complete privacy and harmony with nature with the convenience of a premier location. The 4-bedroom, 3½-bath home features soaring ceilings, walls of glass, and extensive upgrades. $995,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – Twenty-acre estate property features a custom-built Southwest inspired dream home. Property is gorgeous with panoramic views of a wood ravine and pond. Home is a timeless masterpiece featuring a dramatic barreled entry, oversized two-story great room, 4 fireplaces, first-floor master suite, and finished walkout basement. $975,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – Very special Frank Lloyd Wright inspired 2001 Showcase of Homes Entry. Exterior features gorgeous estate setting with view of pond, extensive plantings, patio, porch, deck, and extremely upgraded materials. The interior is a showpiece highlighted by the two story great room with stone fireplace, custom trim, gourmet kitchen with cherry cabinets, den, luxurious master suite, and finished lower level. $849,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

GLENNBOROUGH – Very sharp 5-bedroom, 3 ½-bath custom-built home by Russell. This home rests on one of the most gorgeous settings you will find backing to trees and wildlife. The interior is special featuring great room with vaulted ceiling, large custom kitchen with Corian, spacious first-floor master suite, and finished walkout basement. $599,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SUPERIOR TOWNSHIP – Incredible 4-bedroom, 2½-bath custom-built home on 6.77 perfectly private acres. This setting is spectacularly nestled in the woods, but conveniently located to Ann Arbor, US-23, and M-14. Newer home with all the current finishes, including maple kitchen with granite, great room with high vaulted ceiling, first-floor master suite, sunroom, and upper loft. $579,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – COUNTRY ESTATE –This dramatic 3-bedroom, 3-bath custom-built ranch rests on 3-plus wooded acres just 10 minutes from Ann Arbor. Features include attractive stone accented exterior, screened porch, large deck, custom cherry kitchen, open family room with fireplace, raised ceiling throughout, finished walkout basement with multi-use recreation space, and Geo-thermal heat and a/c (very low energy cost). $529,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

STONEBRIDGE – Gorgeous 4-bedroom, 4.4-bath custom-built home by Harris on the 9th fairway at Stonebridge. This home is the essence of quality. Incredible landscaping and multi-tier brick paver patio. Features a two-story family room with masonry fireplace, cherry kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances, den with built-ins, luxury master suite with spa-like bath, and finished lower level with rec room. $529,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

HURON RIVER FRONTAGE – Enjoy the peaceful flow of the Huron River from this custom built 5-bedroom, 3 ½-bath home. Incredible grounds highlight this home with extensive landscaping, large deck, and beautiful view. Home features great room with Brazilian cherry floor, spacious kitchen, luxury first-floor master suite, den, and finished walkout basement. Dexter schools. $489,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – BROOKVIEW HIGHLANDS – Very sharp 5-bedroom, 4 ½-bath custom built home on a spacious acre plus lot in one of the most desired subs in the Saline Schools. Great exterior, with extensive landscaping, large deck, and circle drive. The interior features two-story family room, open kitchen with maple cabinets, den, nice master suite, and finished walkout basement with recreation room, bedroom, and bath. $479,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SUPERIOR TOWNSHIP – Incredible estate property just minutes from Ann Arbor and US-23. This custom-built home rests on 3 ½ peaceful acres and includes one of the nicest barns you will find. 40 x 60 pole barn with cement floor, oversized doors, and finished loft. Home is stunning with high vaulted ceilings, first-floor master, maple kitchen with granite, and finished basement. $474,900 **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BROOKVIEW HIGHLANDS – Stately 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath custom-built home on a spacious acre plus lot in one of Saline's most desired subs. Great lot with view to open land, large deck, and extensive landscaping. The interior is sharp and features living room with vaulted ceiling, extensive hardwood floors, maple kitchen, sun room, luxury master suite, and flex-use bonus room. $465,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

UPLAND HILLS – CHELSEA – This stunning, custom-built 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath home rests on one of the most beautiful settings you will find anywhere. Quiet cul-de-sac lot backs to 20-acre nature preserve. Enjoy panoramic views of nature, ponds, and trees. Interior is sharp and features great room with 12' ceilings, large kitchen with hearth area, first-floor master suite, and finished walkout basement. $419,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BRIARHILL – This 4-bedroom, 3-bath colonial has undergone an extreme home make-over. Spectacular finishes throughout with all décor and upgrades. Great cul-de-sac lot with large backyard and deck. Features two- story living room and foyer, extensive hardwood floor, maple kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances, family room with fireplace, den, and luxury walk-up master suite. $399,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

ANN ARBOR TOWNSHIP – Rare find!! Sharp 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath custom-built home on a peaceful 1.4 acre lot just minutes to downtown Ann Arbor, UM Hospital, and UM North Campus. This home is rock solid and features two-story great room, open kitchen with large island, spacious first-floor master suite, generous upstairs bedrooms include suite and Jack-n-Jill bath. Park-like setting. $399,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

EAST HORIZONS – Very sharp 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath home on a quiet cul-de-sac in one of the most desired subs in Saline's School District. This great setting features very large backyard, great deck, and extensive landscaping. The interior is crisp with ample hardwood floors, great room with vaulted ceiling, open kitchen, fabulous first floor master suite with brand new bath, and spacious bedrooms. $329,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

LINCOLN SCHOOLS – Enjoy your own 40-acre private get-away in this modest 3-bedroom, 1-bath home. The land is spectacular and features open meadows and dense woods. Potential for land split also exists. Perfect home for an outdoor enthusiast. Home is older and has lots of charm. $299,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

ARBOR WOODS - This stunning 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath custom built colonial rests on one of the most picturesque settings you will find in the Ann Arbor School District. Enjoy views of nature, ponds, and wildlife from the oversized deck. Home features cherry kitchen with 9' ceilings, open family room with fireplace, dream master suite with large bath, nice sized kids' bedrooms, and walkout basement. $289,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – WEST SIDE CAPE – Classic 4-bedroom, 1-bath cape on a quiet west side Ann Arbor neighborhood-- an easy walk to downtown. This home is highlighted by the newer maple kitchen with Corian counter tops. Other features include hardwood floors, coved ceilings, large living room, and generous bedrooms. Two car garage and great backyard $249,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – Classic 4-bedroom, 1½-bath farmhouse on 2.7 acres just 5 minutes west of Saline. This home retains much of its original character with hardwood floors and oversized moldings throughout. Great setting with 5 outbuildings of various size, vista views, and peaceful countryside abounds. $225,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – SALINE – Delightful 3-bedroom, 1-bath ranch on quiet street that is an easy walk to downtown Saline restaurants, shops, and parks. Enjoy the peaceful backyard from the screened-in porch! Home features numerous updates including newer carpet and paint. Features include large living room, open kitchen, spacious bedrooms, and one of the largest finished basements you will find. $149,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING - GRASS LAKE – Hard to find 5-acre horse farm with large barn and 4 fenced pasture areas, is perfectly set up for up to 3 horses. Nice 3-bedroom, 2-bath ranch just minutes in I-94, Ann Arbor, and Jackson. Home features vaulted ceilings throughout, great room, open kitchen, master bedroom with attached bath, and spacious secondary bedrooms. $149,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – This 3-bedroom, 1-bath ranch has all the features you have been hoping for. Home rests on a quiet cul-de-sac lot with huge backyard, mature trees, and the largest deck you will find. The interior is nicely put together and includes living room, remodeled kitchen, good sized bedrooms, and finished basement with rec room and office. Attached 2 ½-car garage. $139,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

YPSILANTI – Striking ranch on a very quiet street just a short walk to Depot Town. Wonderful fenced backyard with large deck and screened porch. The home has many updates and improvements including open kitchen with granite counter tops, large living room, and spacious bedrooms.. $139,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – SALINE – This stunning home was custom-built for the 2008 Showcase of Homes Tour. You will be impressed by quality of materials and craftsmanship. This home rests on 7 ½ peaceful acres that includes a scenic pond, covered bridge, in-ground pool, and 60' x 100' barn. Interior features include two-story great room, chef's kitchen, luxury first-floor master suite, sunroom, den, and incredible finished basement. $1,400,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NW ANN ARBOR – This is one of the finest homes you will ever see. Striking Arch design with Idaho Blue Stone and Redwood exterior, exceptional landscaping, and covered outdoor patio with fireplace. Interior features cherry cabinets, floors, trim, and doors throughout. Gourmet kitchen, spa-like master suite, and finished lower-level with rec space, sauna, and full kitchen. Five-car heated garage. $1,350,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NE ANN ARBOR – This 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath home is one of the finest custom built homes you will ever see. Incredible craftsmanship. Nestled on a wooded 2.4 acre lot. Extensive landscaping, patio, and putting green. Home has every amenity including a two-story great room, sunroom, dream kitchen, luxury bath, and the ultimate finished basement. $1,195,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

ANN ARBOR – Very special 4-bedroom, 4 ½-bath custom-built, builder's own home backing to Polo Fields golf course. Gorgeous brick and stone exterior, extensive landscaping, and the finest covered patio with outdoor kitchen you will see. Interior is top-of-the-line in every way. Custom kitchen, extensive moldings, high ceilings, and luxury amenities in every room of the home. $1,050,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

MATTHAEI FARM – This stunning 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath home rests on a 2.6 acre natural oasis in an Ann Arbor loved neighborhood. Incredible grounds feature ample plantings, mature trees, and complete privacy. Featuring living room with vaulted ceiling, cherry kitchen, open family room, luxury master suite, and finished walkout basement. $799,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

WALNUT RIDGE – Incredible contemporary gem in one of Ann Arbor's most sought after neighborhoods. This home features incredible flair and features. Highlighted by the one-of-a-kind kitchen with stainless steel cabinets, professional grade appliances, and concrete counter tops. Features include all maple floors on the first floor, two-story great room, and luxury master suite with dream bath and closet. $735,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BROOKVIEW HIGHLANDS – Incredible 6-bedroom, 5-bath, 2 ½-bath home on an acre plus lot in Saline. This home is loaded with custom features and amenities inside and out. Exterior features extensive landscaping, spacious yard, large deck, and 2 patios. Interior includes gorgeous living room, cherry kitchen with granite, cherry paneled den, first-floor master, and incredible finished basement. $699,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BROOKVIEW HIGHLANDS – This stunning 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath custom-built home is just perfect in every way. The acre-plus lot provides ample landscaping, large decks, and birch tree forest. Interior is grand and features two-story foyer and living room, custom kitchen with granite, open family room, sun room, first-floor master suite, den, loft, and finished basement. You will love it! $609,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING –PLEASANT LAKE FRONTAGE HOME - Enjoy panoramic views of one of the area's most desired all sports lakes from this renovated 3-bedroom, 2-bath home. The property is breathtaking with over 100' lake frontage, mature trees, large grassy area, and lake front pavilion. Home is designed to take in the lake and features four seasons porch, large great room, and one of the nicest master suites you will find. $499,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

DEXTER – This incredible estate property rests on one of the most beautiful settings you will ever see. Enjoy extensive gardens, exotic plantings, ponds, and covered entertaining areas highlight the exterior. Interior features extensive renovation including dream kitchen, vaulted ceilings, den, luxurious master suite, and separate 900 sq. ft. guest room. You will be impressed. $499,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

HUNTERS RIDGE – Incredible 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath custom-built ranch on a quiet cul-de-sac lot. This home features incredible size and proportion. Oversized rooms, high vaulted ceilings, and nice upgrades highlight this home. Interior features include open kitchen, great room with vaulted ceiling, luxury master bedroom, and finished walkout basement. $499,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

CHELSEA SCHOOLS – Incredible 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath home on Crooked Lake. Enjoy incredible panoramic views of this peaceful lake with an abundance of wild life, boating and swimming available. Home is gorgeous and features all maple floors and trim, great room with views of the lake, open kitchen, luxury master suite, and finished walkout basement. $499,500. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SANDPIPER COVE – Striking 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath custom built colonial on a gorgeous acre lot backing to a mature tree line. This home presents like a model home. Incredible grounds with beautiful plantings, two-tier deck, and shady backyard. Interior features maple kitchen with granite counters, open family room with built-ins, oversized master suite with sitting room and exercise area, and great kids' bedrooms. $449,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SAGINAW HILLS – Striking 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath water front home in one of Ann Arbor's most desired subs. Enjoy peaceful pond views from the oversized deck on this beautiful one-acre lot. Home has a nice contemporary flair and features an open kitchen and family room with water views, living room with vaulted ceiling, master suite with walk-in closet and luxury bath, and finished basement. $449,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

3000 GLAZIER WAY – Stunning 3-bedroom, 2-bath condo in Ann Arbor's most desired building. Enjoy the gorgeous natural surroundings from this fabulous unit just minutes from hospitals, U-M, and North Campus. Features open great room, porch overlooking the woods, sunroom, spacious master bath, and study. Freshly painted, move-in condition. $424,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

CENTENNIAL PARK – Great 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath colonial overlooking a pond in one of the most desired subs in Saline schools. Walk to the elementary school and high school. The interior of this home is sharp and features two-story family room, open kitchen with cherry cabinets, formal living room and dining room, den, great master suite with vaulted ceiling and dream bath, and nice sized kids bedrooms. $419,900 . **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE RIDGE – Very sharp 5-bedroom, 3 ½-bath colonial on a quiet acre lot in one of Saline's most desired subs. Great setting with significant landscaping, large deck, and beautiful patio. This home features a large family room with fireplace, open maple kitchen, formal living room and dining room, oversized master suite, and incredible finished walkout basement. $309,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

WEST SIDE ANN ARBOR – Storybook brick and stone home on one of the most unique and beautiful lots on the west side. Enjoy your own personal oasis at this ½ acre setting featuring towering mature trees, extensive landscaping, and gardens. Home is solid but modest and loaded with character. Hardwood floors, extensive trim, and curved ceilings. $299,900 **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

MALLARD COVE – This very sharp 3-bedroom, 2 ½-bath home features extensive renovation, perfect maintenance, and pride of ownership. Incredible landscaping, large backyard, and paver patio. The interior is highlighted by the new kitchen with granite counters, and high-end stainless steel appliances, family room with fireplace, sun room, master suite, study loft, and generous bedroom sizes. $299,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE - Oversized 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath ranch on a private 2.75 acre lot just minutes to downtown Saline and US-23. Wonderful setting features mature trees, extensive landscaping, and in-ground pool. Interior is spacious and features sunken living room with fireplace, oversized family room with room for game table and TV area, open kitchen, nice master suite, and lots of storage. $299,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

PATTENGILL AREA – Sharp 3-bedroom, 1-bath ranch on a quiet tree-lined street walking distance to the elementary school. This home has been very well taken care of and features all hardwood floors, large living room, bright kitchen, spacious bedrooms, and partially finished basement. Lot feature extensive landscaping, deck, and garden area. $197,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – WEST SIDE ANN ARBOR – Very sharp 2-bedroom, 1 ½-bath condo in the city, tucked away in one of Ann Arbor's most desired neighborhoods. This unit, located in a small condo cluster, is walking distance to shopping, restaurants, and parks. Features include complete interior updates with new maple kitchen, carpet, and paint. Finished basement and attached garage. $189,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

CHELSEA SCHOOLS – Three-bedroom, 1-bath turn-of-the-century farmhouse on 3.7 peaceful acres including barn and pasture set up for horses. Wonderful grounds with fruit trees, gardens, and great privacy. Home is loaded with character and features hardwood floors, large kitchen, and family room with wood stove. Also available for $250,000 with 10 acres. $189,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – Very unique and wonderful 2 -bedroom, 2-bath ranch on a quiet tree-lined street walking distance to downtown. This home has undergone extensive renovation and expansion. Features include upgraded kitchen open to the entire home, large living room, family room, master bedroom suite with attached bath, and finished basement. $159,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

MANCHESTER – This 3-bedroom, 1-bath ranch style home includes 2,200 square feet of living space. Walk to downtown Manchester from this well maintain home on a quiet, tree-lined street. Features include large living room with coved ceilings, open kitchen, sunroom that opens to an in-ground pool, and spacious bedrooms. $139,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

ANN ARBOR – Great 3-bedroom, 1 ½ -bath ranch in quiet neighborhood setting on the south side of town. This home rests on a private lot backing to trees. Nice interior with many recent updates. Features include hardwood floors, spacious kitchen, and nice sized bedrooms. $89,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

ANN ARBOR – Sharp 1-bedroom, 1-bath condo near U-M campus. Enjoy this quiet complex convenient to everything with in-ground swimming pool. This unit is in great shape and features a spacious living room, nice bedroom, and perfect condition throughout. $63,500. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – THE VILLAGE – Affordable 1-bedroom, 1-bath condo in this easy east side neighborhood and easy walk to Whole Foods, Barnes and Noble, and Starbucks. The unit features great space and hardwood floors throughout. Nice unit in move-in condition. $49,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

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Burns Park Classic beauty within walking distance to Burns Park school. Refinished original woodwork and hardwood floors throughout, remodeled kitchen. Covered front porch, 2-car garage. $464,500. Patti Eddy 734-646-2705, 734-669-5845. #3100230

Angell School Don't let the exterior fool you, this home has a stunningly sophisticated interior. Private lot gives a tree-house feel. Wood floors, vaulted ceilings, skylights, screened porch. $595,000. Carolyn Lepard 734-417-2900, 734-669-6808. #3104892

Stonebridge Golf Course Stunning, pristine 5 bedroom, 4.5 bath tastefully decorated. Updated dream gourmet kitchen. Rich wood floors, volume ceilings, windows galore! Finished basement. 3-car garage. Private yard backs to course. $630,000. Lyla Icaza 734-678-3863, 734-669-5914. #3105718

Ann Arbor Hills Sleek, up-to-the-minute ranch! Wood floors, master suite addition, vaulted and coved ceilings, high-end appliances in kitchen, miles of windows overlook fabulous acre setting! $829,000. Nancy Bishop 734-761-3040, 734-669-6857. #3103448

Fowlerville Pristine 40 acre estate, secluded rural setting. Immaculate, 2-story, brick home with all the amenities. 1st floor master, finished lower level. In-ground pool, 3 outbuildings. $950,000. Brent Flewelling 734-646-4263, 734-669-5828. #3104109

Barton Hills Exquisite, distinctive 4 bedroom, 4.5 bath on 3.5 wooded acres with panoramic views. 6,000 sq. ft., study, wonderful kitchen and sunroom, 3 fireplaces. Beautiful details throughout. $1,595,000. Elizabeth Brien 734-645-4444, 734-669-5989. #3102808

Ann Arbor Hills Classic 3-story, brick 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath on hilltop with great views! Large, remodeled kitchen, family room with many windows, hardwood floors. Partially finished walkout. $499,000. Elizabeth Brien 734-645-4444, 734-669-5989. #3103002

Pittsfield Township Spectacular 5,568 sq. ft. custom built home on gorgeous 2.5 acres with pond. 1st floor master, awesome kitchen and laundry with custom cabinets, 4.5-car garage. Saline Schools. $599,900. Roger Leutheuser 734-323-5071, 734-669-4533. #3004746

Green Oak Township Lakefront home on private lake with easy access to US-23. 4,129 sq. ft., 4 bedrooms, island ktichen open floor plan with water views. Great for swimming, fishing, boating. $699,989. Terri Spiteri 734-604-6464, 734-669-5973. #3104787

Polo Fields Golf Course Arts & Crafts custom home with extensive detail. Built-ins, trim throughout. 2nd floor office has Up North feel with pine walls and Australian cypress floor. Beautiful golf course views. $839,000. Fran Jones 734-994-6505, 734-669-5925. #3105134

Ann Arbor Hills A new twist on an old classic, this 2-story has a storybook setting. Wood floors, arched doorways, fantastic master, high-end renovations throughout. 3-season room, deck, patio. $1,150,000. Nancy Bishop 734-761-3040, 734-669-6857. #3103464

Sharon Township Magnificent 62 acre estate. Stunning 6,100 sq. ft. house with 4 fireplaces, library, fabulous finishes. 2,000 sq. ft. guest house. Small lake, pond, pool, stable, landscaped. $1,900,000. Deborah Engelbert 734-368-3683, 734-433-2183. #3102490

Loch Alpine Golf Course Wonderful home! 1st floor master suite with fireplace and door to wrap-around deck. 3 bedrooms upstairs, large granite kitchen, finished walkout with theatre. Double lot. $550,000. Kim Peoples 734-646-4012, 734-669-5883. #3104118

North Lake Fabulous custom home. 2-story great room, granite and alder kitchen, secluded master suite loaded with amenities, in floor radiant heat, extra deep garage. Private deck and patio. $619,000. Rob Ewing 734-216-5955, 734-669-6834. #3104271

West Ann Arbor Quality custom built home in 2001. Waterfront location only 8 minutes to downtown Ann Arbor. Oustanding amenities. 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, 1st floor master, finished walkout. $797,000. Pat Durston 734-260-9247, 734-669-5981. #3101682

Barton Hills A tree house for grown-ups, contemporary and exciting. Great for entertaining, open plan, windows all around with amazing views of Barton Pond. Less than 10 minutes from downtown. $895,000. Sylvia Romeijn 734-358-7870, 734-669-5985. #3105670

Ann Arbor Hills Classic, timeless colonial is charming, yet up-to-date. Fabulous living room with brick fireplace, crown moldings, beautiful hardwood floors. Located at end of cul-de-sac. $1,200,000. Fran Jones 734-994-6505, 734-669-5925. #3010045

Delbi Glen Sub 9,000 sq. ft., 5 bedroom, 5 full, 2 half bath Showcase home by Christian Tennant. Cedar roof, finished lower level with media and family room, 2 Rumford fireplaces. 2.5 acres. $2,195,000. Lisa Stelter 734-645-7909, 734-669-5959. #3100428

East Sales Office	North Sales Office	West Sales Office	South Sales Office	Saline Sales Office	Chelsea Sales Office
2452 East Stadium	2200 Green Road	2355 West Stadium	500 E. Eisenhower Pkwy	1020 E. Michigan Ave.	800 South Main
971-6070	747-7777	665-0300	769-3800	429-9449	475-9600

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www.ElizabethBrien.com

Ann Arbor Hills 2109 Devonshire. Wonderful brick 2-story home on incredible, large lot. 3 bedrooms, study, 2.5 baths, hardwood floors, fireplace in living room, formal dining, screened porch. $650,000. #3103958

Matthaei Farms 5017 Red Fox Run. Striking contemporary on spectacular wooded lot overlooking Fleming Creek. 6,201 sq. ft., custom finishes throughout, gourmet kitchen, 1st floor master, walkout. $850,000. #3104613

Scio Twp 1866 Oakleigh Place. Incredible custom home on quiet cul-de-sac. 4 bedrooms plus 1st floor master suite, 4.5 baths, finished viewout lower level with theater, 4.5-car garage. Minutes to downtown. $899,000. #3103024

Travis Pointe 5327 Village Rd. Premium location, stunning contemporary 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath with pond and golf course views. Gourmet kitchen, great room with wall of windows, loft study. Walkout. $550,000. #3104135

Barton Hills 135 Underdown. Distinctive brick, 2-story on beautiful, mature lot. 3,073 sq. ft. with 4 bedrooms, study, 2.5 baths. Spacious rooms, flowing floor plan, screen porch. Pristine condition. $689,000. #3103640

Ann Arbor Hills 1330 Glendaloch Cir. Wonderful, renovated contemporary. 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, striking details, au pair or office suite, gourmet cherry kitchen, incredible light-filled living room, walkout. $859,000. #3103737

Ives Woods 2033 Norway. Beautiful, sophisticated 3-story colonial. 3,719 sq. ft., 5 bedrooms, 2 full, 2 half baths, Pristine and updated, wood floors, study, newer kitchen. Professionally landscaped. $930,000. #3104980

Ann Arbor Hills 2113 Devonshire. Charming brick and cedar shake 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath on one of the most desirable streets in the heart of Ann Arbor. Family room, built-ins, wood floors, 2-car garage. $645,000. #3104375

The Ridge 4137 High Ridge. Beautiful detached condo with top-of-the-line finishes, hardwood floors, custom kitchen, 2 fireplaces, 1st floor master, bonus room. Pond views, surrounded by mature woods. $759,000. #3103482

N.E. Ann Arbor 395 Windy Crest. Striking, incredible contemporary on private wooded setting. Loads of windows, wonderful details. 4 bedrooms, 1st floor guest room, hardwood floors, walkout lower level. $879,000. #3103716

Barton Hills 330 Barton Shore. Updated with all amenities. 5 bedrooms, 4 full, 2 half baths. New chef's kitchen, amazing sunroom. Great Barton Pond Views. Extensively landscaped 2.7 acres. $1,100,000. #3102432

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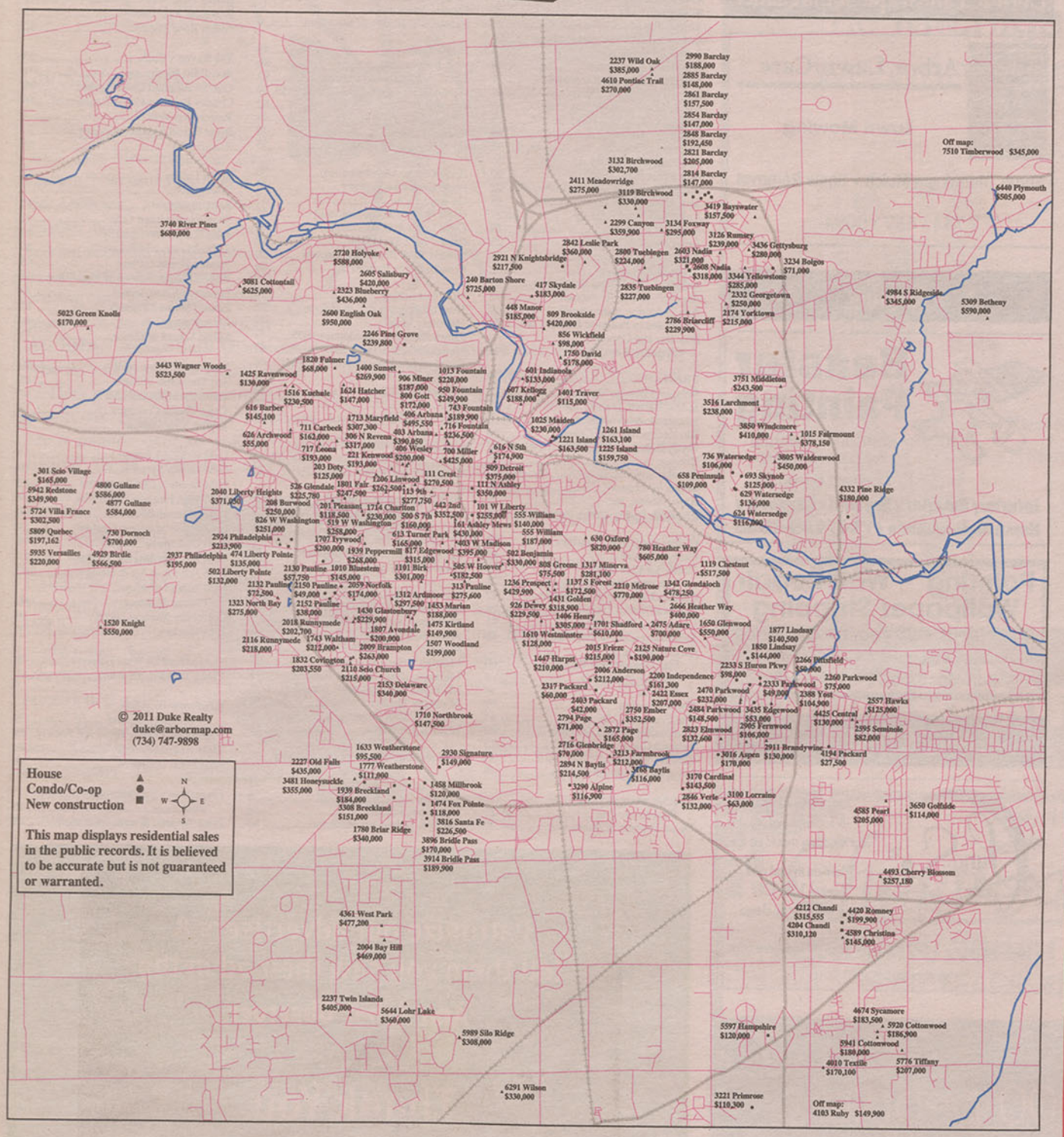
JULY 2011 HOME SALES



A total of 240 home sales crowd this month's map, making it the busiest July since 2006. But don't get too excited: sales always spike in the summer, and even after July's bump, 2011 is still playing catch-up: eighteen fewer homes were sold in the first seven months of this year than in the same period in 2010.

By one yardstick, buying a home in Ann Arbor looks like a bargain. Trulia.com, a real estate website, calculated the price-to-rent ratio for both condos and apartments in fifty large cities to produce its "Summer Rent vs. Buy Index." According to Trulia's press release, the index ranked cities by "the median listing price divided by the annualized median rent." The company says that "ratios that are 15 and under indicate buying is less expensive than renting, while ratios that are 20 or higher indicate renting is less expensive than buying."

Adapting Trulia's method to Ann Arbor condos (no apartments were included), we compared the median selling price to the median rent for two types of condos; both scored well below 15. According to the local Board of Realtors' database, ninety-seven two-bedroom, two-bath condos sold in the first seven months of the year for a median price of $125,000. In the same period, fifty-nine similar units were leased for a median annualized rent of $15,300. Divide sales by rents, and these homes score an enticing 8 on the Trulia scale. Bigger three-bedroom, two-bath condos scored a 10, based on a smaller sample of twenty sales and five rentals. To be fair, it's important to note that Trulia's data includes apartments as well as condos, so their results are skewed somewhat, and can be higher or lower, depending on the city.

What about single-family homes? Trulia's index ignores them, but Ann Arbor has many rental houses. Out of curiosity, we calculated the ratio for three-bedroom, two-bath single-family homes, a sample that in the first seven months included fifty-nine sales and fourteen rentals. The ratio fell right between the two types of condos, at 9—strong evidence that single-family homes, too, are well priced compared to renting.

Why aren't more renters buying? Some may not qualify for financing. Others may simply be skittish about buying, given years of turbulence in market prices. But potential buyers who can get a mortgage, and who weigh their options carefully, are likely to be energized by the buy-rent comparison. Among the communities cited in Trulia's press release, Manhattan had the highest rent-to-buy ratio, at 36, while Las Vegas had the lowest, at 7. On that scale, Ann Arbor's 8, 9, and 10 look pretty attractive.

—Kevin Duke

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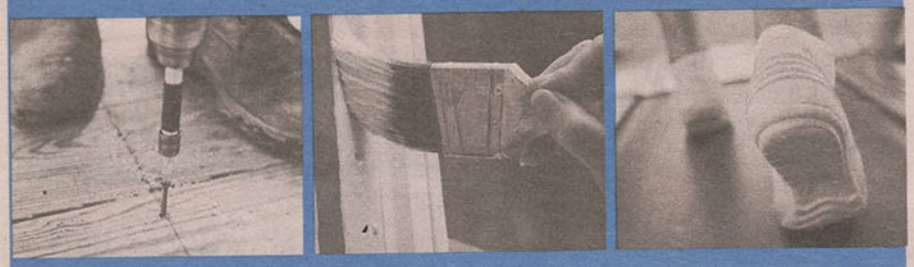

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Advertiser Index

AAUW–Ann Arbor Branch 63
Abracadabra Jewelry 44
Active One Construction 32
Affordable Interiors 26
Airstreamdiner4rent.com 30
Allstar Alarm LLC 19
Allstate Billiards & Patio Furniture 20
American Showcase Remodeling 89
Amish Furniture Home 46
Ann Arbor Automotive 18, 28
Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase 51
Ann Arbor District Library 54
Ann Arbor Figure Skating Club 68
Ann Arbor Learning Community 75
Ann Arbor Nissan 28
Ann Arbor Observer 48, 91, 92
Ann Arbor Optometry 26
Ann Arbor Public Schools 8, 20
Ann Arbor Regent Hotel & Suites .. IFC, BC
Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra 63
Ann Arbor YMCA Camps 71
Arbor Dental 79
Arbor Dog Daycare 27
Arbor Farms Market 31
Arbor Springs Water 82
Arboroads Farm Training Center 67
Argiero's Italian Restaurant 42
Arts in Motion Dance Studio 69
Associates in Pediatric Dental Care 74
/aut/ Bar and Common Language Book Store 45

BRAG 11, 21, 23
Balance Massage Therapy 15
JoAnn Barrett, realtor, Surovell 35
Bennett & Associates 5
Bio Energy Medical Center 34
Nancy Bishop, realtor, Charles Reinhart 36
Bivouac 15
Biwako Sushi 41
Books by Chance 67
Breed Above, Inc. 22
Elizabeth Brien, realtor, Reinhart 88

Cancer Support Community 79
Casey's Tavern 41
Center for Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery 76
Chelsea Chamber of Commerce 47
Chelsea District Library 78
China Gate Restaurant 91
Shiao Ling Chu, realtor, Reinhart 88
City of Ann Arbor—
Fall Management Plan 66
Parks & Pecreation 8
Recycle 14
Come Dancing 67
The Common Grill 43
Community School of Ballet 59
Howard Cooper, auto sales 13
Creative Windows 39
Crystal Creek Assisted Living 76

Matt Dejanovich, realtor, Real Estate One 86–87
Delux Drapery & Shade Co. 32
Dempsey Insurance 28
DogmaCatmantoo 7
Downtown Home & Garden 48

Elizabeth J Interiors 89
Esquire Interiors 6
Evangelical Homes of Michigan 9

Fabric Gallery 49
First Baptist Church 80
First Congregational Church 83
Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library 55, 59
Forest Hill Cemetery 82
Found 44
Friends In Deed 32
Friends of the A2 District Library 55

Anna Gagern (Airstream Ad) 30
Gago Center for Fertility 74
Go-payroll.com 35
Great Harvest Bread Company 46
Great Lakes Art Fair 64
Grillin' 2011 Thank You 12
Grizzly Peak Brewing Company 28
Guardian Tree Experts 89

HCT Consulting 34
Hear USA 83
Heavenly Metal 49
James Hinesly, Orthodontics DDS 77
Hollander's & Sixteen Hands Gallery 45
Big George's Home Appliance Mart 44

I9 Sports 70
I.H.A. 75
Interim Health Care 81

Kensington Court Hotel 3
Kerrytown Bookfest 16, 17, 61
Kiwanis Club of Ann Arbor 27

Nick Lacy, realtor, Surovell 85
Lake Trust Credit Union 27
Lucy Ann Lance 30, 58
Dr. James Lee 2
Carolyn Lepard, realtor, Reinhart 28
Lotus Gardenscapes Inc. 35

MD Cosmetic Dermatology 34
Mac Daddy 69
Malhotra Center for Plastic Surgery 77
Mathilde's Imports 59
Mercy's 41
Metzger's German Restaurant 43
Michigan Brain & Spine Institute 79
Michigan Psychoanalytic Institute 7
Michigan Theater 65, 70
Michigan Vein Center 76
Motawi Tileworks 49

Naturopathic School of Healing Arts 78

Pain Recovery Solutions 81
Pandora 38
Park Shoe Repair 58
Partners in Internal Medicine 80
Peaceable Pets Animal Care 35
Performance Network Theater 52
Pet 'N Play 19
Planet Rock Climbing Gym 73
Jeffrey Post, realtor, Prudential Snyder 32
Provident Real Estate 13
Purple Rose Theatre 52

The Raven's Club 43
Recall Ed Nimby 74
Charles Reinhart Co., realtors 88
Charles Reinhart Co.—Commercial 89
Restoration Vein 4
River Raisin Ragtime Review 57
Running Fit 68

Sabor Latino 42
Select Ride 1
Seva, restaurant 41
Shalimar/Shalimar Cafe 42
John Shultz, photography 19
Silver Maples of Chelsea 80
Sixteen Hands Gallery 45
Rudolf Steiner School of Ann Arbor 68
Summers-Knoll School 70
Edward Surovell Realtors 85
Sweetwaters Cafe 46
Sylvia School of Dance 71

Maryanne Telese, realtor 39
Ten Thousand Villages 48
Thomson Solutions LLC 67
Three Chairs Company 22, 36
Tuptim Thai Cuisine 42

U-M Exhibit Library 53
U-M Health Systems 10
U-M Institute for Humanities 62
U-M MFA Program for Creative Writing 24
U-M Museum of Art 60
U-M Nurse Managed Centers 81
U-M Orthopedic Surgery 78
U-M Prechter Bipolar Research 57
U-M School of Art & Design ..... IBC
U-M School of Music, Theatre & Dance 60
University Musical Society 56
USA Hockey NTDP 70

Vicki's Wash & Wear Haircuts 49
Vision Builders 5K Run 61

Washtenaw Bicycling & Walking Coalition 58
Washtenaw County Historical Society 63
Wells Fargo Advisors 30
Wild Birds Unlimited 69

Zingerman's Community of Businesses 40
Zena Zumeta, divorce mediation 75

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35
52
19
73
nyder..32
13
52
43
74
88
cial 89
4
57
68
42
1
41
42
19
80
45
bor....68
70
85
46
71
39
48
67
22, 36
42
53
10
62
riting .24
60
81
78
57
IBC
60
56
70
49
61
58
ciety...63
30
69
40
75

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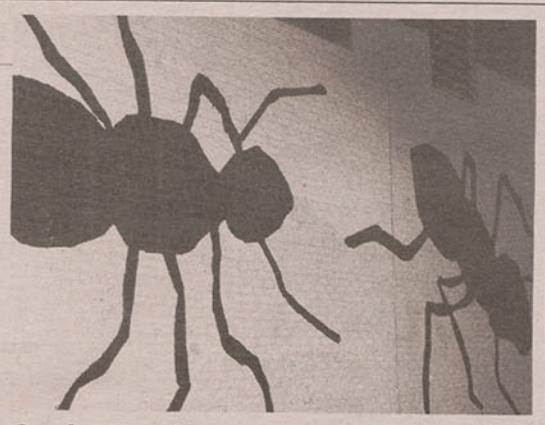
by Sally Bjork



On the March

"Those letters … have to spell out Mediterranean Restaurant," write Mary and Katie DeBona, a daughter-and-mother duo who, while never having seen the mural featured in August, "recognized the writing on the wall." "This month's I Spy vanished from Ali Baba," writes Barb Oliver who is "sad to see [the mural] gone."

Hers was a rare sentiment among our twenty-six entrants. "Not surprised to see it painted over so quickly!" writes Evalyn Yanna. "The face was kind of creepy!" says Jeri Hollister. "It was only up for a short time," shares Paul Gallagher, "and I'm still having bad dreams."

"We've been wondering what's up with that wall," writes Bruce Worden. "They hosted ad murals for various shows on Adult Swim, the [Cartoon Network's grownup] programming block," explains Harold Tessmann III. The clown promoted "the animated series … Children's Hospital," writes Sally Collins. "It has been replaced by roller derby girls," adds Gallagher, "who may be even scarier."

Jillian Bellovary, a.k.a. Big Banger #13.7 of the Ann Arbor Derby Dimes, painted the latest mural herself. She says, "Come to our bouts!"

Janine Hutchinson won August's random drawing, and will take her $25 gift certificate to Seva.

To enter this month's contest, use the photo and clue above to identify the scene and then follow the instructions in the box at the bottom of the page.

fake ad

by Jay Forstner

According to the dictionary, "conflate" is defined as "to fuse into one entity; merge." We know that because we had to look it up when we read Marty Pernick's edifying entry identifying the Fake Ad for Bijar Borweb puppies for sale on page 39 of the August issue. "A lhasa apso is a dog that looks like a rug," Pernick wrote. "A bijar is a rug. A lhasa apso is a guard dog and would not be 'wonderful with children' even if crossed with a rug. Your spelling of 'Llhasa' with two L's conflates Tibetan lamas who created the lhasa breed with Andean llamas, which are camels with pretensions."

Several other entries pointed out that the ad offered puppies available next spring while most dogs have a gestational period of only about nine weeks. To which we say that it's possible we made a mistake, but it's also possible our fictitious breeders had merely noticed a certain look in their stud dog's eye.

In any case, we received 217 correct entries, and several of them didn't point out a single mistake we'd made. Linda Herrst of Manchester was chosen as our winner. She's taking her prize to Grizzly Peak.

Puppies for sale.

Extremely desirable Llhasa Apso–Bijar Borweb mix. Wonderful with children, seniors. All papers. Available spring. $750 males;$700 females. Call humane breeders, 555–6768.

To enter this month's contest, find the Fake Ad in this issue and follow the instructions in the box below. Hint: the ad always includes the name of the Observer's website, arborweb.com—this month in "Bijar Borweb."

To enter either contest, send email with the subject "Fake Ad" or "I Spy" to backpage@aaobserver.com. Mail: 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, MI 48104. Fax: 769–3375. You must include your name, address, and telephone number! All correct entries received by noon on September 9 will be eligible for this month's random drawings. Winners will receive $25 gift certificates to any business advertising in this issue.

The **Observer** has some **great tickets** to concerts at the **Michigan Theater,** and we want to **share the love.**

'Otto' our faithful mascot

Over the next month, we'll have four Facebook contests for chances to win tickets to Gordon Lightfoot on September 21 and Pat Metheny on October 2.

To enter, first "Like" the Ann Arbor Observer Facebook page at www.facebook.com/AnnArborObserver

Then look for Wall posts about Michigan Theater tickets and comment on them.

The contests are creative and fun. Good luck!

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Events at a Glance

*Daily **Events** listings begin on p. **53**. **Films:** p. **69**. **Galleries:** p. **59**. **Nightspots** begin on p. **50**.*

Concert Music

classical, religious, cabaret

- Violinist Chen Yi, Sept. 11
- Pianist Peter Collins, Sept. 13
- Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra, Sept. 17
- Emerson String Quartet, Sept. 18
- Chelsea Chamber Players, Sept. 25
- Kerrytown Concert House American Romanian Festival, Sept. 25
- Wayward Sisters early-music trio, Sept. 30

Vernacular Music

pop, rock, jazz, & traditional

*See **Nightspots**, p. 50, for shows at the Ark, Blind Pig, & other clubs*

- Howard Fishman (jazz), Sept. 9
- Tiesto (electronic music), Sept. 16
- Jeremy Horn (singer-songwriter), Sept. 16
- Mark Randisi (jazz crooner), Sept. 16
- Mark Wills (country), Sept. 17
- Ahmad Jamal (jazz), Sept. 17
- Ellen Rowe Trio (jazz), Sept. 18
- Gordon Lightfoot (singer-songwriter), Sept. 21
- Mikrokolektyw (jazz), Sept. 22
- Freddy Cole Quartet (jazz), Sept. 23
- Fleet Foxes (folk-rock), Sept. 29
- Tom Russell (singer-songwriter), Sept. 30

Theater, Opera, & Dance

- *In a Word* (New Theatre Project), Sept. 1
- *Marie Antoinette* (Performance Network), Sept. 1–4
- *Consider the Oyster* (Purple Rose), Sept. 1–3
- *Twelfth Night* (Blackbird Theatre), Sept. 2 & 3
- *The Light of the Plaza* (Encore Musical Theatre), Sept. 8–11, 15–18, 29 & 30
- *Othello* (Blackbird Theatre), every Fri. & Sat., Sept. 9–24
- *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (EMU Theatre), Sept. 9–11
- *Avenue Q* (Ann Arbor Civic Theatre), Sept. 15–18
- Performance Network "Diamonds and Pearls" cabaret, Sept. 22
- *Escanaba in da Moonlight* (Purple Rose Theatre), Sept. 22–25 & 28–30
- *Long Day's Journey into Night* (PTD Productions), Sept. 22–25, 29, & 30
- *Jack & the Beantin* (Saline Area Players), Sept. 23–25
- Indonesian Institute of the Arts gamelan concert & dance performance, Sept. 23
- Mark Morris Dance Group, Sept. 23 & 24
- *1940s Radio Hour* (Shut the Front Door Theater), Sept. 23, 24, & 30
- *ACT: Two One-Acts* (Ann Arbor Civic Theatre), Sept. 23, 24, & 30
- *Time Stands Still* (Performance Network), Sept. 23–25, 29, & 30
- Indonesian puppeteer Jaka Riyanto's shadow puppet play *Kresna Duta,* Sept. 24
- "24-Hour Theater" (U-M Basement Arts), Sept. 24
- *The American Crowbar Case* (New Theatre Project), Sept. 30

Comedy, Storytelling, & Performance Art

- Comic Steve Bills, Sept. 2 & 3
- Comic Jef Brannan, Sept. 9 & 10
- The Second City sketch comedy troupe, Sept. 16 & 17
- The Sklar Brothers comedy duo, Sept. 16 & 17
- Comic Ron "Tater Salad" White, Sept. 23
- Comic Kevin Zeoli, Sept. 23 & 24
- Comic Brian Regan, Sept. 30
- Comic Michael Malone, Sept. 30

Festivals, Fairs, & Shows

- Saline Community Fair, Sept. 1–4
- Old St. Patrick's Labor Day Weekend Festival, Sept. 3 & 4
- AACTMAD "Dancing in the Streets," Sept. 4
- Jim Monaghan Antique Engine Show, Sept. 10
- HomeGrown Festival, Sept. 10
- Kerrytown BookFest, Sept. 11
- Oktoberfest Block Party, Sept. 16 & 17
- Talladay Farms Corn Maze, Sept. 16–18, 23–25, & 30
- Wiard's Orchards Country Fair, Sept. 17, 18, 24, & 25
- Jim Toy Community Center OutFest, Sept. 17
- Spinners Flock Fleece Fair, Sept. 18
- Michigan Argentine Tango Club Festival, Sept. 22–26
- Saline "Harvest of the Arts Oktoberfest," Sept. 23
- Ann Arbor Rabbit Breeders Show, Sept. 24
- Webster Fall Festival, Sept. 24
- Wiard's Orchards "Night Terrors," Sept. 24 & 30
- Ypsilanti Orphan Car Show, Sept. 25
- Jewish Community Center "Apples & Honey," Sept. 25
- Old West Side Homes Tour, Sept. 25
- U-M Center for Chinese Studies Kite Festival, Sept. 25
- Jewish Cultural Society Rosh Hashanah, Sept. 28
- ChelseaMaze, Sept. 30

Lectures, Readings, & Forums

- Journalist Donovan Hohn, Sept. 8
- Poet Derek Mong & novelist Jesmyn Ward, Sept. 15
- McClatchy Newspapers White House correspondent Steven Thomma, Sept. 15
- Poet Jennifer Burd, Sept. 21
- U-M English Department forum "Miłosz Remembered," Sept. 22
- Poet Franz Wright, Sept. 23
- Former Michigan governor Jennifer Granholm, Sept. 27
- Poets Laura Wetherington, Jill Darling, & Sara Williams, Sept. 28
- Poet Tony Hoagland, Sept. 29
- *Ghost Writers* contributors Laura Kasischke, Lolita Hernandez, Laura Thomas, Elizabeth Schmuhl, and Steve Amick, Sept. 29

Family & Kids' Stuff

- Dan Zanes & Friends family concert, Sept. 25
- Clonlara School Family Math Night, Sept. 27

"Only in Ann Arbor" Event of the Month

- U-M harpsichord professor Edward Parmentier plays "Mother-and-Child" virginals, Sept. 18

SEPTEMBER 2011

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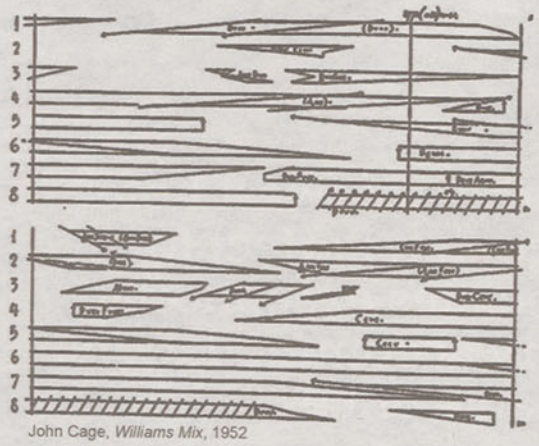
9/9 ~ 10/7
Exhibition: Nothing to Say



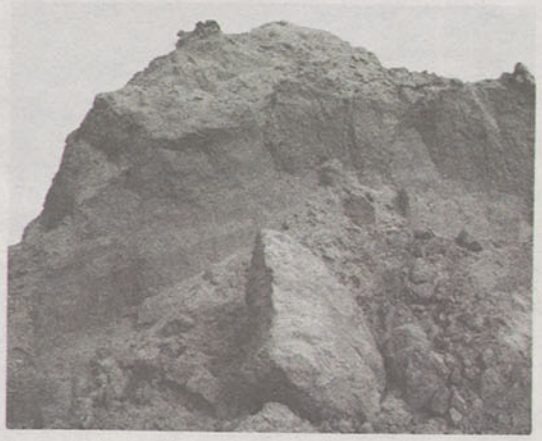
John Cage, *Williams Mix*, 1952

CURATED BY Kathleen McShane Bolton, this juried exhibition examines the concept of nothingness, quiet, less is more, what is there and not there, and nonsense. The work gives form to the perception that "nothing" can evoke "everything", or anticipate what is to come.

OPENING RECEPTION:
September 9, 6:00 - 9:00pm

Slusser Gallery
1st floor 2000 Bonisteel Blvd., Ann Arbor

9/9 ~ 10/7
Exhibition: Altered Ground



CURATED BY Lea Bult, this exhibition asks artists and designers in all media to reconsider the concept of landscape.

OPENING RECEPTION:
September 9, 6:00 - 9:00pm

Work • Ann Arbor
306 S. State, Ann Arbor

9/9 ~ 10/7
Exhibition: Topophilia

CURATED BY Kayla Romberger and Alisha Wessler, this exhibition explores the emotional connections humans form with their physical environments, showcasing work by both national and international artists. With support from the University of Michigan International Institute Fund for Exhibitions.

OPENING RECEPTION:
September 9, 6:00 - 9:00pm

Work • Detroit
3663 Woodward Ave, Detroit

9/15
Penny Stamps Series:
Futurology: Cory Doctorow, Mark Stevenson, James King

Title: OPTIMISM AND FAILURE

EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES have the potential to transform society, but not always for the better. How can we all participate in shaping technology in open and responsible ways to give us the tools we'll need in facing the future? Speakers Cory Doctorow, Mark Stevenson and James King will discuss what we can hope for and what we should guard against.

PRESENTATION: 5:10pm

Michigan Theater
603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor

9/22
Penny Stamps Series:
Francois Delaroziere, creator of fantastic machines

Title: CREATIVE MOTION

FRANCOIS DELAROZIERE is the artistic director of La Machine, a French street theater company that creates living architectures, using movement as a language and source of emotion. Delaroziere's latest show "Les Mecaniques Savantes" features a 37-ton mechanical spider. He also designed the "Grand Elephant des Machines de l'Ile de Nantes", including a 45-ton elephant, as part of a travel-through-time world at the crossroads of Jules Verne and Leonardo Da Vinci.

PRESENTATION: 5:10pm

Michigan Theater
603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor

9/29
Penny Stamps Series:
Mark Dion, public artist

Title: FOLLIES IN PUBLIC ART

DION'S LARGE-SCALE PUBLIC PROJECTS include a Captain Nemo-like interior constructed in a vast gas tank, a fire escape-like vertical garden, and a large scale folly with a huge sleeping bear sculpture resting on a hill of material culture from the neolithic to the present. He is currently working with the architectural firm of james corner field operations on the visual art programming and redesign of the Seattle Waterfront.

PRESENTATION: 5:10pm

Michigan Theater
603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor

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